



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Passionfruit spots (153)



Photo 1. Spots, light brown with yellow haloes, on leaf of passionfruit caused by *Alternaria alternata*.



Photo 2. Spots on passionfruit caused by *Alternaria passiflorae*; they are generally larger than those of *Alternaria alternata*, especially on the fruits and stems.



Photo 3. Deeply sunken spots on a granadilla fruit, covered with dark spore masses of *Alternaria passiflorae*.



Photo 4. Dark brown spots of Alternata spot, *Alternaria alternata*, on passionfruits.

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On passionfruit, granadilla and weeds (e.g., stinking passion flower). Occasionally important.
- Fungal spots on crops and weeds cause leaf fall. Spots on fruit are dark brown and sunken.
- Severe in wet weather; spores spread in wind and rain.
- Cultural control: allow spacing so that air circulation dries leaves rapidly; ensure adequate nutrition; prune vines, removing dead or weak sections; weed, especially remove wild passion flower; after pruning, collect trash and burn after harvest; tolerant varieties. Chemical control: copper or mancozeb.

Common Name

Brown spot and Alternata spot

Scientific Name

Alternaria passiflorae (brown spot) and *Alternaria alternata* (Alternata spot).

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Information from Gerlach WWP (1988) *Plant diseases of Western Samoa*. Samoan German Crop Protection Project, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH, Germany; and information (and Photos 1,2&4) from *Diseases of fruit crops in Australia* (2009). Editors, Tony Cooke, Denis Persley, Susan House. CSIRO Publishing. Photo 3 Kohler F, Pellegrin F, Jackson G, McKenzie E (1997) *Diseases of cultivated crops in Pacific Island countries*. South Pacific Commission. Pirie Printers Pty Limited, Canberra, Australia.

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