



## Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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### Pineapple black rot (190)



Photo 1. Internal symptoms of pineapple black rot, caused by *Ceratocystis paradoxa*.



Photo 2. Black rot of pineapple, *Ceratocystis paradoxa*.

#### Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On pineapple, cocoa (pod rot), coconut (stem bleeding), banana and plantain (black end or fruit rot), maize, mango, potato, sugarcane (pineapple disease, **see Fact Sheet no. 218**), sweetpotato (**see Fact Sheet no. 232**) and taro. An important disease.
- A fungus causing, (i) long, white papery spots on leaves which rub together; (ii) black, soft watery rots under brittle skin on fruit damaged at harvest when wet; (iii) soft grey rots at base of planting materials when detached wet, and stored in heaps.
- Cultural control: (i) fruit - handle carefully; reject sunburnt fruit; keep packing shed clean; (ii) planting material – store in single layer, inverted with butts exposed to sun; (iii) planting - improve drainage and avoid planting when wet.
- Chemical control: dip fruit in prochloraz, and planting material in propiconazole.

#### Common Name

Pineapple black rot, water blister of pineapple (soft rot), white leaf spot, butt rot

#### Scientific Name

*Ceratocystis paradoxa*; it is also known by its asexual name, *Chalara paradoxa* or *Thielaviopsis paradoxa*.

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AUTHOR Grahame Jackson

Information from *Diseases of fruit crops in Australia* (2009). Editors, Tony Cooke, Denis Persley, Susan House. CSIRO Publishing. Photo 1 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. Photo 2 Anna L. Snowden. Pineapple: Disease and symptoms. Vikaspedia.

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