



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Vanilla viruses (159)



Photo 1. Vanilla plant near collapse, and showing leaves with distorted growth, mosaics and some leaves and pods with black, raised, scab-like spots typical of plants with *Vanilla necrosis virus*.



Photo 2. Black stem infections on vanilla caused by *Vanilla necrosis virus*.



Photo 3. Vanilla leaf with yellow-green mosaic patterns and distortions along the margins caused by *Vanilla mosaic virus*.



Photo 4. Similar to Photo 3 with broad yellow-green patterns characteristic of *Vanilla mosaic virus*.

Summary

- Narrow distribution. Pacific Islands. There are several viruses - *Watermelon mosaic virus* (vanilla necrosis strain) and *Vanilla mosaic virus*.
- WMV-VNV and VaMV cause severe diseases, with WMV-VNV the more important.
- Yellow patches and streaks; later, black scab-like spots with long black streaks on the stems, and rapid dieback and death within 3-12 months.
- Spread by aphids, in cuttings and on pruning tools.
- Cultural control: wash hands often when pruning; remove diseased plants as soon as symptoms are seen; cuttings only from healthy plants; weed; disease-free tissue cultures (SPC CePaCT).
- Chemical control: none recommended.

Common Name

Vanilla virus diseases

Scientific Name

Cymbidium mosaic virus (CymMV), *Odontoglossum ringspot virus* (ORSV), *Watermelon mosaic virus - Vanilla necrosis virus* strain (WMV-VNS), *Vanilla mosaic virus* (VaMV).

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Information from CABI (2013) *Vanilla mosaic virus, Watermelon mosaic virus-II, Cymbidium mosaic virus, Odontoglossum ringspot virus*. Crop Protection Compendium. (www.cabi.org/cpc). Photos 1-3 Mike Pearson, University of

This mini fact sheet is a part of the app *Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds*

The mobile application is available from the Google Play Store and Apple iTunes.

