

Beetroot (silver beet) leaf spot (320)

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. Damage mostly on older leaves, especially severe on sugar beet, but also on beetroot, silver beet, *Amaranthus*, spinach, lettuce, weeds. Potential to damage baby-leaf crops.
- Leaf spots, round to irregular, 2-5 mm wide, ash-grey to pale brown, usually with brown or reddish-purple borders. Spores develop on the spots; sometimes centres fall out. Spots join together, leaves dry, later collapse, although remain attached to the plant.
- Spread by rain-splash and wind. Survival on crop debris in soil, seed, weeds.
- Cultural control: certified seed; weed (especially, *Chenopodium*); collect debris and destroy after harvest; crop rotation.
- Chemical control: use mancozeb. Apply when symptoms first appear, repeating at 7-10 intervals.



Photo 1. Leaf spot on beetroot, *Cercospora beticola*.

Common Name

Beetroot leaf spot

Scientific Name

Cercospora beticola

AUTHORS Grahame Jackson & Eric McKenzie

Information Diseases of vegetable crops in Australia (2010). Editors, Denis Persley, et al. CSIRO Publishing; and CABI (2017) Cercospora beticola (cercospora leaf spot of beets). Crop Protection Compendium. (<https://www.cabi.org/cpc/datasheet/12191>); and from (including Photo 1) McKenzie E (2013) Cercospora beticola: PaDIL - (<http://www.padil.gov.au>).

Produced with support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research under project PC/2010/090: Strengthening integrated crop management research in the Pacific Islands in support of sustainable intensification of high-value crop production, implemented by the University of Queensland and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

Copyright © 2021. All rights reserved.



Australian Government
Australian Centre for
International Agricultural Research



Web edition hosted at <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/pppw>