

## Tomato leaf mould (076)

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### Summary

- Worldwide distribution. In tropical and warm temperate countries. An important disease.
- Spots merge, leaves yellow and fall; defoliation is often rapid, and losses are high. Brownish spore masses on undersides of leaves. Worse where cool and wet.
- Spread occurs in air currents, water splash, on tools.
- Cultural control: avoid planting near older crops; remove lower leaves as trusses are harvested; collect trash and burn after harvest; tolerant varieties; at least a 3-year crop rotation.
- Chemical control: copper, mancozeb or chlorothalonil. Start when spots seen, and continue until 3-4 weeks before last harvest.

### Common Name

Tomato leaf mould

### Scientific Name

*Passalora fulva* (previously known as *Fulvia fulva*, *Mycovellosiella fulva* and *Cladosporium fulvum*).

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Information from Leaf mould of tomato (2015) University of Minnesota Extension. (<https://extension.umn.edu/diseases/leaf-mold-tomato>); and CABI (2019) *Passalora fulva* (tomato leaf mould). Invasive Species Compendium. (<https://www.cabi.org/ISC/datasheet/24580>); and from *Diseases of vegetable crops in Australia* (2010). Editors, Denis Persley, et al. CSIRO Publishing. Photo 3 Kohler F, et al.(1997) *Diseases of cultivated crops in Pacific Island countries*. South Pacific Commission. Pirie Printers Pty Limited, Canberra, Australia.

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Photo 1. Yellow patches on the upper surface of the leaves of tomato leaves infected by leaf mould, *Passalora fulva*.



Photo 2. Underside of a tomato leaf showing spots of leaf mould, *Passalora fulva*, where spores are produced.



Photo 3. Close-up of top and bottom leaf surfaces of tomato with spots caused by leaf mould, *Passalora fulva*.



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