Vanilla viruses (159)

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).

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*.

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