

## Eggplant anthracnose (390)

### Summary

- Worldwide distribution. Two species: *Colletotrichum capsici* from Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa. Solomon Islands, Tonga; *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* most Pacific island countries. Cause fruit rots, leaf and flower spots and blights. Major problem on eggplant, chili and capsicum.
- Damage: multiple light-brown spots merging to form large, raised, warty, brown patches with concentric rings, especially at base of fruit, becoming sunken and developing masses of black fruiting bodies.
- Spread: spread in wind-driven rain, possibly by insects and tools. Long distance spread in or on seed and weeds.
- Cultural control: in nursery - disease-free seed (if unsure, treat 50°C for 30 mins); check each seedling; in field - 3-year rotation; weed; avoid overhead irrigation; collect crop debris and burn at harvest.
- Chemical control: use (i) protectants, e.g., mancozeb, copper products or chlorothalonil, or (ii) systemics, e.g., triazoles or strobilurins.

### Common Name

Eggplant anthracnose, eggplant fruit rot

### Scientific Name

*Colletotrichum* species, particularly, *Colletotrichum capsici*, and *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*. The sexual state is *Glomerella cingulata* (see **Fact Sheet no. 177**).



Photo 1. Anthracnose fruit spots, *Colletotrichum* species - young individual light-brown spots (above), multiple merging spots below.



Photo 2. Anthracnose spots of eggplant, *Colletotrichum* species, elongated along the length of the fruit.



Photo 3. Anthracnose of eggplant, *Colletotrichum* species, showing the large spots at the base of the fruit furthest from the flower stalk.



Photo 4. Sunken spots on eggplant, *Colletotrichum* species, showing black spore-bearing fruiting bodies in circular bands.



Photo 5. Anthracnose spots, *Colletotrichum* species, on eggplant, showing concentric circles.

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Information from: McKenzie E (2012) Pathogen Identification Manual 3: Export Commodities. Ministry of Primary Industries and Landcare Research New Zealand Limited.

Produced with support from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research under project HORT/2016/18: Responding to emerging pest and disease threats to horticulture in the Pacific islands, implemented by the University of Queensland and the Pacific Community.



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