

Mango anthracnose (009)

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On mango. Many other crops are hosts of this fungus, including avocado, capsicum, coffee, eggplant, papaya, tomato and yam. There are different strains, infecting different crops and weeds. An important disease.
- A wet-weather fungal disease, common on mango and yam. On mango, a blight of flowers, and young shoots, causing leaf spots, and post-harvest rots of ripening fruit.
- Masses of spores are formed, and these are spread in wind-driven rain.
- Cultural control: prune trees (<4 m tall) to allow air to move freely through the canopy, reducing the time that leaves and flowers are wet; resistant varieties.
- Chemical control: use copper or mancozeb, beginning when flowers appear until the pre-harvest waiting period. For fruit: post-harvest dip in carbendazim or hot water (both for 5 minutes at 52°C).

Common Name

Mango anthracnose, mango blossom blight

Scientific Name

Glomerella cingulata (it also has the name of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*). *Glomerella* is the sexual stage of the fungus, and *Colletotrichum* the asexual stage. The disease is often referred to as 'anthracnose' of mango. The word anthracnose means 'coal', so fungi that produce dark spots are often given this name. Another fungus also causes leaf spots: *Scolecotigmina mangiferae* (see Fact Sheet no. 325).



Photo 1. Shoot blight of mango, caused by *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*. Some of the spots have joined together destroying large areas of the leaves, typical for a 'blight' disease.



Photo 2. Dark spots, many enlarging and joining together, of mango anthracnose, *Glomerella cingulata*. The fungus infects the skins and later develops in storage. Orange-pink spore masses develop in the centres of these areas.



Photo 3. Mangoes for sale at a market showing dark spots of anthracnose, *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*.



Photo 4. *Scolecotigmina mangiferae* leaf spots on underside of a mango leaf; they are small, dark, irregular spots.



Photo 5. *Scolecotigmina* leaf spots on the top side of a mango leaf, small, dark, irregular spots with light green margins. Compare with anthracnose.



Photo 6. Close-up of *Scolecotigmina* leaf spots.

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Information from Chin D et al. (2010) Field guide to pests, beneficials, diseases and disorders of mangoes. Northern Territory Government, Department of Resources, Australia. (https://dpiir.nt.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/227832/mango_field_guide.pdf); and Stovold GE, Dirou JF (2004). Blight diseases in mangoes. agnote. NSW Department of Primary Industries. (https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/120114/blight-disease-mango.pdf), and from Nelson SC (2008) Mango anthracnose (*Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*). (Cooperative Extension Service. College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. (<https://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/pd-48.pdf>)). Photos 1-3.5 Kohler F, et al. (1997) Diseases of cultivated crops in Pacific island countries. South Pacific Commission. Pirie Printers Pty Limited, Canberra, Australia. Photo 4 McKenzie E (2013) *Scolecotigmina mangiferae* PaDIL - (<http://www.padil.gov.au>).

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