

## Yam rusts (097)

### Summary

- Narrow distribution. Southeast Asia, Oceania. Only on yams. There are two types which are very similar. Minor diseases.
- The two diseases occur late, and are unlikely to affect tuber yields.
- Yellow to light orange pustules on leaves and, for one rust, sometimes on leaf stalks and stems.
- Biosecurity: Transfers of yams between countries should be made as plants in tissue culture, preferably tested for viruses. A rust outbreak in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (2000/2001), may mean severe strains exist.
- Cultural control: none recommended for these diseases.
- Chemical control: none recommended for these diseases.

### Common Name

Yam rusts

### Scientific Name

*Goplana dioscorea* and *Goplana australis*



Photo 1. Yam rust, *Goplana dioscorea*, (upper leaf surface).



Photo 2. Yam rust, *Goplana australis* (underside of leaf).



Photo 4. General view of yam rust of undetermined species, Papua New Guinea.



Photo 3. Yam rust of undetermined species from Papua New Guinea, showing typical rust symptoms on upper and lower leaf surfaces.

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Information (and Photos 1&2) 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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