

UC Pest Management Guidelines

AVOCADO

DOTHIORELLA FRUIT ROT

Pathogen: *Dothiorella gregaria*

(Reviewed: 7/01, updated: 6/99)



IN THIS GUIDELINE:

[SYMPTOMS](#)

[COMMENTS ON THE DISEASE](#)

[COMMENTS ON CONTROL](#)

[PUBLICATION](#)

[GLOSSARY](#)

SYMPTOMS

Dothiorella fruit rot does not appear when the fruit is still on the tree but develops after the fruit is picked and starts to soften. Small purplish brown spots may then appear on any part of the fruit, but more often at the stem end. These spots gradually enlarge and may involve the entire fruit surface. The flesh is invaded by the fungus, becomes discolored, and develops an offensive odor.

COMMENTS ON THE DISEASE

This disease is an occasional but minor postharvest problem of avocados in California.

COMMENTS ON CONTROL

The fungus commonly grows on dead leaves, dead margins of leaves, and on dead branches. Do not let dead material accumulate in the groves. Also, avoid saline conditions that cause necrotic spots to develop on leaves because the fungus will live in these dead areas. Follow the same postharvest handling instructions for fruit infected by anthracnose.

PUBLICATION



UC UC IPM Pest Management Guidelines: Avocado

UC ANR Publication 3436

Diseases

B. A. Faber, UC Cooperative Extension, Santa Barbara/Ventura counties

L. J. Marais, Plant Pathology, UC Riverside