



KALRO/NAVCDP Factsheet No. 028/2024

Integrated management of True Bud Disease in Pyrethrum

Introduction

True bud disease is a destructive disease in pyrethrum caused by fungal pathogens such as *Ascochyta* spp., *Alternaria* spp. and *Ramularia bellunensis*. The fungi can also be transferred during plant propagation through splits. It can lead to significant yield losses of 30% to 100% and reduced quality of pyrethrins content. Epidemic outbreaks occur during prolonged foggy and rainy weather conditions.

Symptoms

- Flower buds dry up and turn brown or purplish grey.
- Flower growth is retarded resulting in deformed buds or flowers which bend over to the diseased side of affected flower stalks.



True Bud Disease of Pyrethrum. Janet Obanyi 2022



Bud disease (Collins and Micah Kentegra)

Management strategies

Cultural practices

- Plant certified high quality seed/splits/seedlings
- Practise crop rotation with maize and /or legumes for 2-3 seasons
- Plough crop residues 2 feet deep after completion of the crop cycle
- Remove crop residues from the field after





completion of the crop cycle

- Weed and remove volunteer plants that carry over the pathogen from season to season

Chemical control

- Spray plantlets or seedlings or plants with Azoxystrobin-based products such as Azoxy Top 325SC and carbendazim-based products such as Rodazim 500SC at recommended rates as per the product label.
- Apply organic copper or organic sulphur at the onset and during wet and cold seasons.

Note:

- Use synthetic pesticides at the vegetative stages in nurseries, on young seedlings and after cutting back of the pyrethrum plants to avoid affecting the quality of the flowers.
- Always refer to updated Pest Control Products Board list of registered pesticides (www.pcpb.org)



Compiled by: Janet Obanyi, Miriam Otipa, Violet Momanyi, Hannah Chore Oduor, Collins Kimutai, Micah Thuo, Violet Kirigua and Lusike Wasilwa

Edited by: Nyabundi K.W., Mukundi K.T., Maina P., Wanyama H.N and Mugata R.K., Kibunyi N. K and Kinyua Z. M.

Design and Layout: Nogrecia Mnene

Disclaimer: The content of this publication is for general information to farmers and technical staff only and no person should act or fail to act on the basis of the information herein without professional advice from crop health experts.

For more information Contacts: Centre Director
Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization, Molo
P.O. Box 100-20106 Molo

Email: Kalro.molo@kalro.org; **Email:** info@kalro.org

Safaricom: +254 722206986/722206988; **Airtel:** +254 733-333-223/4/733333299/4