



TSWV symptoms on tomato fruit (Source: Lusike Wasilwa)

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MANAGEMENT OF TOMATO SPOTTED WILT VIRUS





Introduction

Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus (TSWV) occurs globally and is prevalent in temperate, sub-tropical, and tropical regions.

The virus has a broad host range, including weeds, ornamentals, and crop hosts, making it one of the few plant viruses that infect both dicots and monocots (e.g. tomatoes and onions).

Symptoms

- Dark brown streaks on stems and leaf petioles.
- Yellowing and upward curling of the leaves, which mottle and appear crumpled.
- Systemic necrosis on growing tips and stunted growth.
- Immature fruit have mottled, light green rings with raised centers.
- Broad dark necrotic spots with chlorotic halos on lower and upper leaves.

Spread

TSWV is transmitted by Thrips and also by movement of virus-infected plant material

Management

- Strict control of weeds
- Use of clean seed materials.
- Practise crop rotation.
- Manage thrips to reduce spread of the virus by:
 - Disinfection of farm tool and equipment.
 - Use of natural enemies like lady birds
 - Use of blue sticky traps and yellow water traps to minimize thrips population.
- Spraying with insecticides containing lambda-cyhalothrin (e.g. Pentagon 5%EC, Duduthrin, Voltage 5EC), or Deltamethrin (e.g. Atom 2.5EC, Decis 2.5EC) at manufacturers' recommendations.



Dark brown streaks on tomato leaves
(Source: SDSU extension service)



Brown dark spots and necrotic spots (Source: SDSU extension service)

