



KALRO/NAVCDP Programme leaflet No. 085/2024

TOMATO SUN SCALD

- Sunscald is a condition that affects green tomato fruit that has been abruptly exposed to excessive sunshine due to pruning, natural spreading of the plant induced by a high fruit load, or diseased leaf loss.
- A white, glossy patch that looks blistered is the first sign.
- As the fruit ripens, the dead, bleached tissues gradually collapse, producing a somewhat depressed region that may become pale yellowish and wrinkled.
- Saprophytic and pathogenic organisms rapidly infest the dead tissues, thereby causing fruit decays.
- The severity of the damage is greater during times of very high temperatures.





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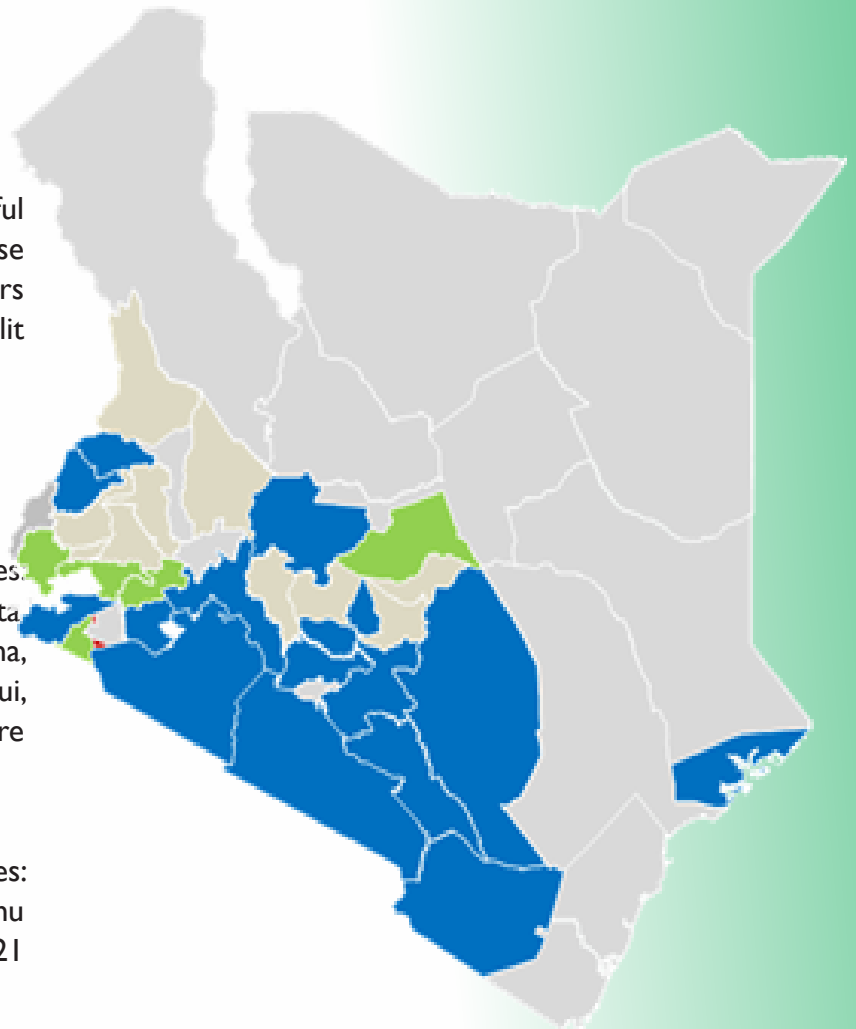
Management

- Sunscald may be controlled by careful pruning and harvesting, foliar disease management, and planting cultivars with thick leaves that does not split open and expose the fruit.

Legend

 Major tomato producing counties: Kajiado, Kirinyaga, Machakos, Taita Taveta, Narok, Makeni, Bomet, Muranga, Bungoma, Homabay, Laikipia, Nakuru, Lamu, Kitui, Kiambu and Trans Nzoia (AFA-Horticulture Crops Directorate; 2021 Report)

 Emerging tomato growing counties: Siaya, Meru, Migori, Kericho and Kisumu (AFA-Horticulture Crops Directorate; 2021 Report)



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