Major Papaya Diseases in Hawai'i

Anthracnose



Symptoms



Characteristic circular marks on fruit

Black Spot



Symptoms

Spotting starts on underside of leaf



Spots on fruit lead to rejection



Powdery Mildew



Powdery growth on underside of leaf

Symptoms

Heavy powdery mildew causes premature leaf drop, which lowers fruit sugar



High powdery mildew pressure can affect young leaves



Phytophthora



Stem canker in the fruit column



Symptoms



Phytophthora causes trees to wilt



Infected fruit has fuzzy white fungus growth



Toppled trees rot at the root crown

CONTROL METHODS

Cultural Control

Sanitation: remove inoculum (contaminated tissue) from field when disease incidence is low, especially for Phytophthora

Chemical Control

Check State of Hawai'i licensed options at: http://state.ceris.purdue.edu/doc/hi/statehi.html

Biological Control



Beneficial fungus (white color) that attacks and parasitizes black spot fungus

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