



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Arrowroot leaf spot (222)



Photo 1. Arrowroot showing leaf spot, *Cercospora tacciae*, mainly on the older leaves.



Photo 2. Large brown spots with yellow haloes on arrowroot, caused by the leaf spot fungus, *Cercospora tacciae*.

Summary

- Narrow distribution. Philippines and Oceania. On arrowroot. Fungal disease; possibly serious, but little researched.
- Spots, round to irregular, grey-brown, with yellow halo on mature leaves. A wet weather disease; spores spread by wind and rain from underside of leaves.
- Cultural control: difficult as plants harvested at different times and replanted in same place. Remove infected leaves and burn them to delay onset of disease during wet times; practice crop rotation, and plant “gardens” at one time.
- Chemical control: not appropriate – uneconomic, and potential to contaminate fresh water lens.

Common Name

Arrowroot leaf spot

Scientific Name

Cercospora tacciae

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Photos 1&2 Kohler F, Pellegrin F, Jackson G, McKenzie E (1997) *Diseases of cultivated crops in Pacific Island countries*. South Pacific Commission. Pirie Printers Pty Limited, Canberra, Australia.

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The mobile application is available from the Google Play Store and Apple iTunes.



