

Angular leaf scorch

What is it?

Angular leaf scorch, caused by the fungus *Pseudopezizicola tetraspora*, is a disease of grapevines in the USA. Its symptoms are very similar to Rotbrenner, a disease found in wine regions of most European countries.

Cultivars vary greatly in their susceptibility to the disease. Those classified as highly susceptible are Aurore, Chancellor, Chelois, DeChaunac, Rugeon and Ventura.

The disease may seem absent in most years and may then become severe in seasons with several prolonged rains.

What do I look for?

The main symptoms of disease are found on the leaves. Lesions first appear as faint yellowing spots and are more noticeable when the leaf is held to the sun. Secondary veins in the spots appear brown. As the disease progresses the spots change from yellow, to reddish brown and the tissue eventually dies. Lesions are generally surrounded by a yellow margin and bordered by major veins. On red varieties of *Vitis vinifera* such as Cabernet Sauvignon and Pinot Noir the margins between healthy and diseased tissue are red. Infected leaves usually fall from the vine prematurely.



Angular leaf scorch lesions

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How does it spread?

The disease can spread locally via wind or water borne fungal spores.

Where is it found?

Angular leaf scorch is currently known to occur only in the USA.

Control options

Cultural practices that increase air circulation within the vineyard will help reduce prolonged periods of leaf wetness that favour disease development. Because the disease overwinters in dead leaf matter, its removal or destruction by cultivation, prior to bud break will reduce the incidence of the disease in the growing season.

In the USA, the disease is also controlled by the use of fungicides.

How can I protect my vineyard from Angular leaf scorch?

Check your vineyard frequently for the presence of new pests and unusual symptoms. Make sure you are familiar with common viticulture pests so you can tell if you see something different.

If you see anything unusual, call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881.

**EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE
1800 084 881**

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Want more info?

If you would like more information, or to download a copy of the Industry Biosecurity Plan for the Viticulture Industry, visit www.planthealthaustralia.com.au, email admin@phau.com.au or phone (02) 6215 7700.