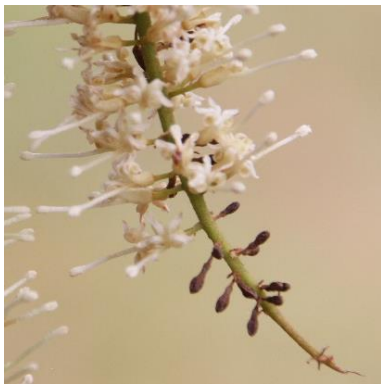


MACADAMIA FLOWER DISEASES

Macadamia
Protection
Programme

Background Flower blight is a fungal disease affecting flowers. There are four known flower diseases affecting macadamias: Dry flower disease, green mould, grey mould and Phytophthora blight. Dry flower and green mould are the most prevalent fungal diseases found in South African macadamia flowers. Grey mould has been reported but is rarely found. Phytophthora blight of macadamia flowers has not yet been identified in South Africa.

Dry flower disease (Neopestalotiopsis blight)



Symptoms Dry appearance of the raceme, necrosis of affected flower buds and brown discoloration of the flower. Typically, affected buds are easily dislodged from the raceme as disease progresses.

Optimal growth conditions

25-27 °C at 70% RH and at VPD greater than 0.7 kPa.

Grey mould disease (Botrytis blight)

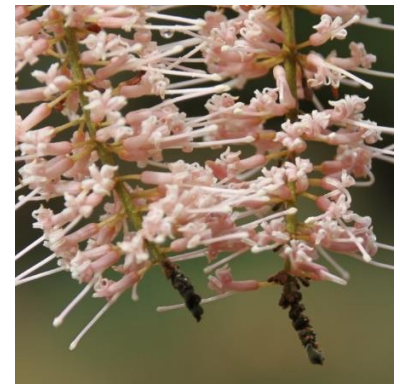


Symptoms Blotches on petals and soft rot of the flower. Development of small brown necrotic flecks on the florets progressing to blackish-brown discolouration. Grey matt like surface present on top of flowers.

Optimal growth conditions

18-21 °C at 100% RH and at VPD less than 0.6 kPa.

Green mould disease (Cladosporium blight)

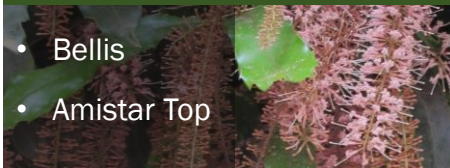


Symptoms Small water-soaked specks on the affected tissue and the presence of olive-grey fungal growth.

Optimal growth conditions

21-25 °C at 100% RH and at VPD less than 0.6 kPa.

Registered fungicides



- Bellis
- Amistar Top



SAMAC
Macadamias South Africa NPC



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