

## Neopestalotiopsis Fruit Rot Warning

There is a new disease that has been reported on strawberries, and it is causing substantial issues for the strawberry industry in Florida.

Fungal *Neopestalotiopsis* species are associated with the disease, and Natalia Peres (University of Florida) has recently published an article about this disease and its management – or lack thereof. “Below-ground symptoms were characterized by darkening of the roots and orange-brown necrosis in the crowns, which contributed to stunting or poor establishment after transplanting. Above-ground symptoms ranged from stunting to wilting and necrosis of older leaves, to eventual collapse and death of the entire plant.

Most of the commercial strawberry cultivars grown in Florida were affected by the disease and the common linkage among these outbreaks was the nursery source for the plants.” These symptoms are very similar to those of *Phytophthora* root rot or anthracnose crown rot. Fruit spot symptoms are similar to those of anthracnose, whereas leaf spot symptoms are similar to other common leaf spots observed on strawberry; therefore, microscopic examination of spores is likely required for confirmation.

To date, Switch and thiram products are the only fungicides that provide suppression of this disease (~50% control).

Lien article :

<https://site.extension.uga.edu/strawberry/2020/09/neopestalotiopsis-fruit-rot-warning/>