

# Mint

## Diseases

### **Stolon Rot** (*Macrophomina Phaseoli*)

The disease causes rotting of the underground stem and death of the entire plant. One of the main damages caused by the disease is the reduction in the production and rotting of the stolons by the end of the cropping season.

**Control** : The disease can be controlled by proper crop rotation. Mint should not be planted continuously in those areas where attack of stolon-rot is observed. It is better to follow 3-year-crop rotation with rice, wheat and mint. It is safer to discard all the diseased stolons while planting and treat the stolons with 0.25% solution of Captan or 0.1% Benlate.

### **Root Rot** (*Thielavia Basicola; Rhizoctonia*)

Numerous dark brown necrotic spots appear on stolons and roots

**Control** : It is safer to discard all the diseased stolons while planting. The stolons should be pre-treated with 0.25% solution of Captan or 0.1% Benlate

### **Leaf Spot** (*Corynespora cassiicola; Curvularia lunata; Alternaria spp*)

Small dirty brownish necrotic spots are observed on the leaves and twigs leading to defoliation

**Control** : Treating the stolons with 0.25% solution of Captan or 0.1% Benlate or spraying with 0.3% Copper Oxychloride is recommended.

### **Fusarium Wilt** (*Fusarium Oxysporum*)

The leaves of the affected plants turn yellow, curled and finally dry.

**Control** : Benlate, Bavistin and Topsin can be used to control the disease.

### **Root knot** (*Meloidogyne Incognita, M. Javanca*)

The nematode affected plants show stunted growth with yellowing of the leaves.

**Control** : Application of neem cake during planting reduces the nematode population.

### **Rust** (*Puccinia Menthae*)

Golden brown spots are observed on the leaves and twigs. The leaves turn yellow and fall off.

**Control** : Spraying the crop with 0.3% Copper fungicides immediately on the appearance of the disease is recommended. Early harvest of the crop during May is suggested so as to decrease the losses due to falling of leaves.

### **Powdery Mildew** (*Erysiphae Cichoracearum*)

Powdery white patches on the upper and lower surfaces of the leaves and stems are observed. Under favourable conditions, the disease causes severe loss due to defoliation. It also reduces the oil content up to 50%.

**Control** : Spraying Sulphur formulation or fungicide like Karathen-WD is recommended. Spraying should commence as soon as the disease appears in the field and should be repeated every 10-15 days.