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Apple Diseases



Apple bitter rot is caused by the fungal pathogen *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* (teleomorph *Glomerella cingulata*). Bitter rot is a common disease of apples and pears and is distributed worldwide.



Zygothia jamaicensis, the cause of flyspeck, survives from one season to the next on the cuticle of the host. The individual fly specks are sexual fruiting bodies of the fungus.



Apple bitter rot (closer view). Fruit rot symptoms differ, depending on whether infection is initiated by spores from perithecial type (sexual spores) or conidial type (asexual spores). Fruit infection can occur early in the season and symptoms usually do not develop until fruit begin to ripen.



Apple scab caused by *Venturia inaequalis*. Symptoms can be observed on leaves, petioles, blossoms, fruit and new growth. The fungus overwinters in diseased leaves and fruits.

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Hollier, Clayton A.

contributorsOverstreet,
Charles

Hadziabdic, Denita

institutions

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Apple bitter rot. Closer view of decaying fruit. The rot begins as a small, slightly sunken light brown to dark brown lesion. Note fruiting bodies of the fungus scattered over the surface of enlarged lesion.

Posted on: 7/12/2005 2:52:07 PM

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