

# Fruit rots

*Colletotrichum acutatum*, *Gnomoniopsis comari*, *Phomopsis obscurans*, *Podosphaera aphanis*, *Phytophthora cactorum*, *Botrytis cinerea*, *Rhizopus*

## Damage:

Early stages of many fruit rots look similar. Incubation (in a closed container at room temperature) will often induce spore formation, and identification will be easier.



Anthracnose (*Colletotrichum*) can cause heavy fruit loss without any other plant symptoms. Dark round lesions will have bright orange or salmon-coloured spores after



Both *Phomopsis* and *Gnomoniopsis* can rot green or ripe fruit, often from the calyx end, as well as cause leaf blotch symptoms. Tiny "volcanoes" of gummy spores form in lesions



Powdery mildew (*Podosphaera aphanis*) can grow white spores on the fruit itself, as well as on calyx and leaves.



Leather rot (*Phytophthora*) can infect flowers or fruit at any stage. Fruit becomes shrunken and slightly dried out.



The long furry-looking growth of *Rhizopus* is characteristic, and fruit leaks pink juice.



Grey mould (*Botrytis*) is the most common and widely spread fruit rot. Infections start as tan lesions. Upon incubation (and often in the field) the lesions grow thick white mycelium followed quickly by masses of grey/brown spores.