

# Bacteriosis in bell pepper

## Recognize the problem

Bacteriosis affects the leaves and sometimes the fruits. The leaves show some dark spots starting from the underside. When the attack is severe, the leaves become dry and fall. Spot like scabs also appear on the fruits.

## Background

Bacteriosis, which is also an important disease in tomato, is caused by a bacterium that appears when the climate is humid and the temperature is regular. The disease develops best when the temperature is mild, from 10 to 25°C. The bacterium can live on the soil and in stubbles from several crops but the most common sources of the disease are infested seed and diseased transplants. It's therefore extremely important to use clean seeds.

## Management

- Sow tolerant cultivars such as "Maravilla" and/or "Monark" hybrids
- Eliminate stubble from damaged crops
- Practise crop rotation especially with corn, wheat or other grains since the bacterium does not live on these crops
- Sow at more than 70 cm between furrows and more space between plants to prevent diseased plants from contaminating healthy plants
- Transplant in periods of lower rainfall
- When the disease is already present in the crop, we can apply chemical products such as: fungi-bactericide, rotating with copper products or mixing the latter

Bacteriosis on the leaves of bell pepper. (Photo by Telémaco Orquera Vías)



Spots caused by bacteriosis in the fruit of bell pepper. (Photo by Telémaco Orquera Vías)



When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, and pre-harvest interval.

Scientific name(s) > *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *vesicatoria*

The recommendations in this factsheet are relevant to: Bolivia



Authors: Telémaco Orquera, Raquel Pardo  
Autonomous Department Government of Santa Cruz  
tel: 591 76350035 email: telemacoorquera@hotmail.com

Edited by Plantwise.