

Powdery mildew on Mango

Oidium mangiferae



Powdery mildew on inflorescence (Scot Nelson)



Powdery mildew on leaves (Scot Nelson)



Powdery mildew (*Oidium* sp.) (Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Bugwood.org)

Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plant resistant or tolerant varieties ● Plant at wider spacing from 8 x 8 m to 12 x 12m. If you plant at smaller distances, keep thinning until the standard spacing is reached ● Practice good orchard sanitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prune tree branches to allow air circulation ● Pick up and destroy fallen leaves and flowers. ● Remove tall weeds from orchards ● Fertilize the orchard properly (increased rates of N-P-K application decreases the incidence of powdery mildew). Avoid late-season applications of nitrogen fertilizer ● As the fungi is carried by the wind, intercropping with other fruit trees or forestry species reduces the spread of the disease ● In nurseries, avoid overhead watering to help reduce the relative humidity ● Keep all equipment clean and dry to prevent spread of the fungus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Before blossoming, observe 10 marked trees/ha in the orchard for symptoms each week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Young tissues (flowers, leaves and young fruits) show small patches of white powdery mycelium which can later merge to cover large areas ● Young infected leaves may become distorted, develop grey necrotic lesions on the upper side of the leaves and tend to curl downwards ● If severe, the leaves may become brown, dry and fall ● Inflorescences: fail to open and may drop from panicles, can become completely covered by the mildew and blacken or become brown and dry ● Fruits: severe blossom infection can result in complete loss of fruit. The epidermis of the infected newly set fruit cracks and forms corky tissue. Entire fruit may become yellow and misshapen, covered in mildew and fall prematurely ● Carefully monitor the flowers as they are susceptible to infection once they have begun to open on the panicles, 3-5 weeks after bud break ● Monitor more frequently during favourable conditions, when temperatures are mild (23°C) and air is moist (as little as 20%) ● If 2-3 trees are infested (5-10 % of leaves or flower bunches) out of 10 trees, then consider action 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remove severely infected panicles and all infected plant parts, and burn or bury to at least 60 cm deep. Do not compost infected plant debris ● Spray infected shoots with a solution of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 6 spoons of baking powder ● 3 spoons of white oil and white bar soap foam ● Mixed with 15 litres of water

Note: Pesticides may be available to control this pest. Please check with the Ministry of Agriculture in your country to find out which pesticides are registered in your country and the local restrictions for their use.