

Managing Anthracnose in Mangoes

Anthracnose (*Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* and occasionally *C. acutatum*) is the major fungal disease of mangoes. Anthracnose can cause significant post-harvest losses and can ruin otherwise high quality crops.

Octave[®] is highly effective against anthracnose blossom blight in mangoes. The active ingredient of Octave, prochloraz, possesses locally systemic properties and has strong contact and some translaminar mobility. It therefore exhibits both protectant and eradicant activity.

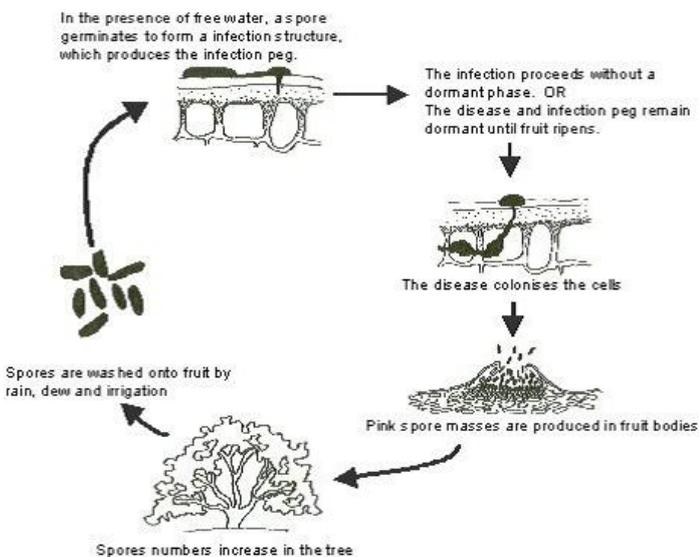
Where conditions favour disease development, the strategic use of Octave will help to ensure optimum fruit set and pack-out.

The Disease Life Cycle

The critical stages for infection in mangoes are flowering and early fruit development.

Anthracnose spores are harboured in dead leaves and twigs, which are washed onto the flowers or fruit by rainfall, dew or irrigation. In the presence of free water, the spores germinate and infect leaves, flowers and fruit. See Figure 1.

FIGURE 1: Anthracnose Life Cycle



Source: Rowland Holmes, Queensland Department of Primary Industries

FIGURE 2: Anthracnose Disease Symptoms



Source: Rowland Holmes, Queensland Department of Primary Industries

If wet weather prevails during flowering, the disease can build up, causing severe blossom blight, destroying inflorescences and reducing fruit set.

Developing fruit that are infected may show symptoms soon after infection, or the infection may become 'latent' – meaning that symptoms do not develop until after harvest, as the fruit ripen.

Post-harvest symptoms of anthracnose are sunken black spots which appear on the surface of the fruit during ripening. See Figure 2.

When to Use Octave

- While Octave offers two to three days' kick-back (eradicator) activity, it should be applied preventatively, prior to or soon after infection.
- For longer residual control and as a part of a resistance management strategy, Octave must be applied in a mixture with mancozeb.
- Apply the mixture using high volume spray equipment or low volume misters ensuring thorough coverage of blossoms. Spray volumes will vary depending on the age and size of the trees.

OCTAVE TIMING FOR ANTHRACNOSE

					
Bud initiation	Bud swelling	Early flowering	Mid flowering	Late flowering	Fruit set
OCTAVE[®] + MANCOZEB					

Notes

1. Early flowering is a critical application timing for the prevention of anthracnose.
2. Further applications of protectant fungicides will be required leading up to harvest.

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