

Terminal bud rot of date palm (Medjnoon)

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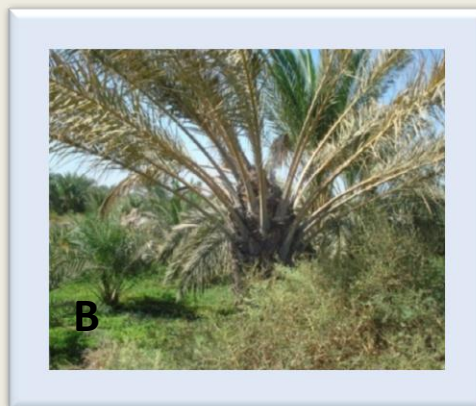
It is one of the important date palm diseases in Iraq especially in neglected orchards with poor drainage and high salinity and those affected by stem borer. The percentage of disease incidence reached 34%. It is spread in most of the palm cultivation areas in the world, in Iraq it is called Medjnoon(foil'disease) because of its apperance of the palm tree head bending to one side.



The second case, the terminal bud is infected and a lateral bud is stimulated for growth, so a new head of the palm tree appears diagonally, which is known as Medjnoon. (B)

Disease symptoms

The disease causes several symptoms including :



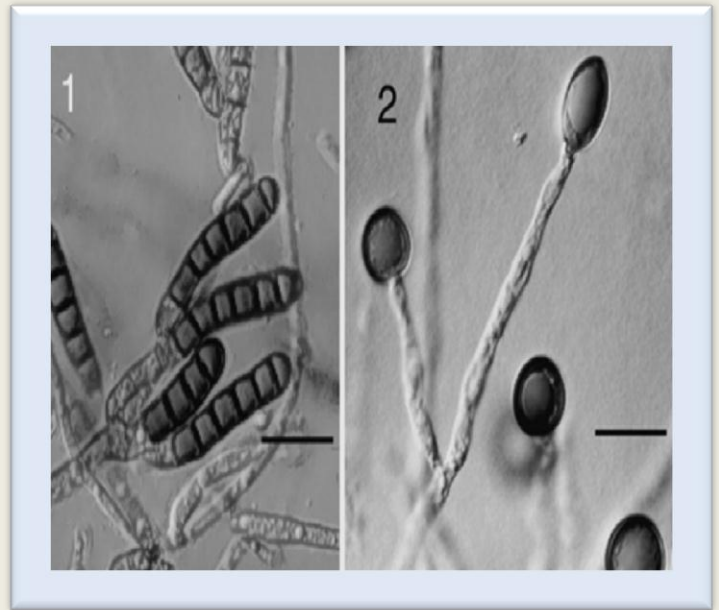
The third case appears in the form of black rough areas on the sides of the fronds, as well as deformation, twisting and burning of the leaves, which is known as black blight. These symptoms may appear on stalk. (C)

The first case: Terminal bud rot, which cause the death of the palm tree within 6-24 months. (A)



The pathogen

Thielaviopsis paradoxa (Fig.1) and *Chalaropsis radiculicola* (Fig.2), the imperfect form of *Ceratocystis paradoxa* are the causal agent of Terminal bud rot.



Control

- 1- Cut the infected parts and burn them;
- 2- Caring for the palm service from irrigation;fertilization, grading and removing the old frond;
- 3- control date palm stem-borer;
- 4-injecting palm with a mixture of fungicides and insecticides.

References

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- 3-Saeed,E.E., Sham,A., El-Tarabily,F.A., Elsamen,A., Iratni,R and Abuqamer,S.(2016). Chemical control of Black scorch disease on date palm caused by *Thielaviopsis punctulata* in united Arab Emirate Plant Disease 100(12) 2370-2376.