

Sooty Mold on Tree Crops

Capnodium spp. or *Scorias* spp.



Grapefruit covered in sooty mold (Photo: T. Peters)



Pink Hibiscus mealybug on sousop (Photo: T. Peters)

Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control	Direct Control	Restrictions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor plants for the presence of ants and sucking insects and take action • Prune plants with excessive branches to maintain adequate space and allow air and light movement through the field • Keep plans healthy with nutrients but do not over fertilize 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly look for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black surface growth on leaves, branches and fruit, that rubs off easily by the finger • Whitefly, aphids, psyllids, leafhoppers, mealybugs, and soft bodied scale insects in shoot tips and back of leaves • Distorted leaves that may indicate presence of these insects • Sticky card board painted yellow or white can help trap some of these insects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place yellow sticky traps in fields as a means of monitoring and controlling whitefly, psyllids and leafhoppers • Cut back heavily infested branches. Schedule annual pruning early in the rainy season • Use oil sprays, such as Saf-T-Add, Golden Pest Spray Oil, Neem Oil or any horticultural oil • Support the activities of biological control agents; such as parasitic wasps and lady bird beetles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When considering insecticidal control, always use personal protective equipment, and read and follow the pesticide label. • Do not apply to mature fruits or during periods of flowering. • Oil sprays can be combined with some of the following insecticides: pyrimethanil (e.g. Protector), abamectin (e.g. NewMectin / Cure) and pyrethroids such as alpha-cypermethrin (e.g. Fastac) or lambda-cyhalothrin (e.g. Karate) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pyrimethanil - WHO class III; abamectin - not classified by WHO; alpha-cypermethrin - WHO class II; lambda-Cyhalothrin - WHO class II.



Grenada

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