

WATCH-OUT!



The bacterial canker of kiwi fruit: mind the symptoms!

Description

Currently the **bacterial canker of kiwi fruit** is the most harmful disease caused by the bacterium *Pseudomonas syringae* pv. *actinidiae* (PSA) damaging severely kiwi fruit production.

In 1984 the **bacterial canker** was detected for the first time in Japan and in 1994 in Italy. At the moment it is differently spread in some Italian regions as Campania, Calabria, Emilia-Romagna, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Lazio, Lombardy, Marche, Piedmont, Tuscany, Trentino, Veneto. It was also detected in South Korea, Iran, China, New Zealand, France and Portugal. PSA is a pest of several species of actinidiae (*A. chinensis*, *A. deliciosa* and *A. arguta*). In Italy it has particularly affected the cultivars of the species *A. chinensis* with yellow fruits.

Symptoms and damages

The bacterium causes cankers (cracked bark and under

bark) on the trunk, on branches and on new shoots producing whitish exudates later turning reddish; rain, wind, insects, animals and the humankind are the main pathways of the **bacterial cells** inside the exudates.

On leaves the PSA creates brown angular spots at first chlorotic and then necrotic surrounded by a yellow halo. Flowers and blossoms turn brown and then tend to fall, whereas fruits are symptomless. The bacterium is a vascular pathogen able to kill the plant.

What's in case of suspected occurrence?

In case of suspected symptoms do **immediately inform** the Regional Plant Protection Organization:

1. contact the closest office of the Regional Plant Protection Organization by e-mail or telephone (providing name, surname, address, telephone number, e-mail and exact detection site);
2. if possible, do send a photograph to fit@assam.marche.it;
3. it is forbidden to transport **infected plants**.

Marche Region Plant Protection Organization - ASSAM Via dell'industria 1- Osimo (AN)

email: fit@assam.marche.it	web : www.assam.marche.it/fitosanitario	
Main headquarter and Province of Ancona:	☎ 071-8081	☎ 071-85979
Provinces of Ascoli Piceno and Fermo:	☎ 0735-654131	☎ 0735-654131
Province of Macerata:	☎ 0733-233771	☎ 0733-272380
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