



AVRDC - The World Vegetable Center

Fact Sheet

Tomato Disorders

Gray Wall (Blotchy Ripening)

Found worldwide

Symptoms

Affected green fruit have large patches of hard, grayish or yellowish tissue. The affected fruit appears to be poorly ripened or to have ripened at an uneven rate with some patches remaining gray or turning yellow.

Inside the fruit, there is uneven coloration of tissue with some areas having a brown color. Some blotchy ripening symptoms are similar to those caused by tomato mosaic virus (ToMV) on fruit. To distinguish the disorders, ToMV causes mottling and distortion of foliage, but graywall will not affect foliage.



Conditions for Disease Development

The cause is unknown. An association between graywall and low potassium, low boron, or high nitrogen levels has been established. The disorder is also more prevalent when temperatures are very high with low light levels, and is less prevalent during sunny, mild conditions.

Control

There are differences in susceptibility among red-skinned varieties. Follow a balanced fertilizer program.

How to Identify Graywall



Fruit is uneven in color, both inside and outside, with hardened patches of grayish or yellowish tissue.

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