

Updates on Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl Virus Outbreaks

Industry Notice: 27 July 2021

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

Industry is encouraged to report any Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl Virus (TYLCV) symptoms in tomatoes following a detection of the virus in north east Victoria.

BACKGROUND

TYLCV is a devastating virus disease complex of tomato, first detected in Queensland in 2006. It is reported to cause severe damage to plant leaves resulting in an eventual reduction in crop yield. **TYLCV is a declared exotic disease in an Order made under the Plant Biosecurity Act 2010, and reporting a suspect detection is mandatory under this Act.**

HOST PLANTS

Hosts of TYLCV include any plant or plant product, (excluding fruit and seeds), of tomatoes (*Lycopersicon esculentum*), beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris*), lisianthus (*Eustoma grandiflorum*), lobed croton (*Croton lobatus*) and all species of Capsicum, Euphorbia and Physalis.

SYMPTOMS OF TYLCV

TYLCV is most obvious in the foliage of the plant. Typical symptoms include leaves curl and discolouration, and necrosis around the veins in the leaf's surface (Figure 1).

More information about the disease can be found on the Agriculture Victoria website <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/plant-diseases/vegetable-diseases/tomato-yellow-leaf-curl-virus>.

TYLCV VECTOR

TYLCV can be transmitted from diseased to healthy plants by silverleaf whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*), which feeds on a wide range of hosts (Figure 2).

The virus is not known to be seedborne or to be transmitted mechanically.



Figure 1 Tomato plant infected with TYLCV and showing leaf curl, yellowing and stunting.

REPORTING

Report any unusual plant pest or disease immediately to the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881. Early reporting increases the chance of effective control and eradication.

Alternatively, you can make a report via email with a photo (where possible) to plant.protection@agriculture.vic.gov.au

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information regarding movement and treatment requirements, please contact your local Agriculture Victoria Plant Standards Officer by telephone on 136 186 or via market.access@agriculture.vic.gov.au



Figure 2 Silverleaf whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*)

ACCESSIBILITY

If you would like to receive this publication in an accessible format, please telephone Agriculture Victoria on 136 186.