# OTHER IMPORTANT DISEASES OF HEVEA RUBBER

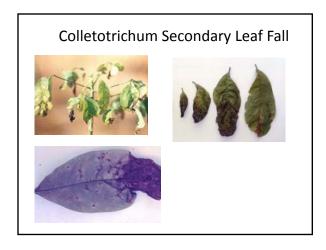
#### **DISEASES OF HEVEA RUBBER**

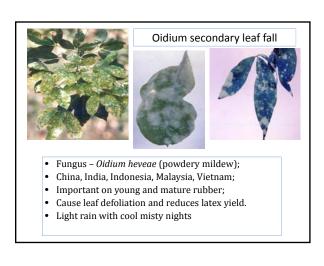
- Leaf diseases;
- Stem diseases;
- Panel disease;
- · Root diseases.

| Category                         | Diseases                                                                   |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Traditional<br>major<br>Diseases | Colletotrichum SLF, Oidium SLF,<br>Phytophthora leaf fall.                 |
| Newer<br>Diseases                | Corynespora leaf fall, Fusicoccum leaf blight                              |
| Minor leaf<br>diseases           | Fusicoccum leaf disease<br>Bird's eye spot<br>Cylindrocladium leaf disease |
| Diseases exotic to Asia          | South American leaf blight, Black crust,<br>Target leaf spot               |

#### Colletotrichum secondary leaf fall

- Fungus-Colletotrichum gloeosporioides
- Occur in Brazil, Cameroon, China, Gabon, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam;
- Causes leaf fall and shoot dieback;
- Important in nurseries, young and mature rubber;
- Reduces plant growth and yield;
- Common during annual wintering;
- Needs high rainfall.





#### Phytophthora abnormal leaf fall





- Fungus *Phytophthora* palmivora or P. botryosa;
- Brazil, India, (Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam);
- Prolong heavy rainfall;
- Infects young and mature leaves, petioles, shoots, fruits;
- Causes leaf fall and shoot dieback

### **CORYNESPORA LEAF FALL**

Pathogen is Corynespora cassiicola





| SEVERITY OF CORYNESPORA LEAF FALL |               |                 |  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| Country                           | Year detected | Severity (2009) |  |
| India                             | 1958          | Severe          |  |
| Malaysia                          | 1960          | Severe          |  |
| Nigeria                           | 1969          | Moderate        |  |
| Indonesia                         | 1980          | Severe          |  |
| Cameroon                          | 1984          | Moderate        |  |
| Sri Lanka                         | 1985          | Severe          |  |
| Thailand                          | 1985          | Light           |  |
| Brazil                            | 1985          | Light           |  |
| Bangladesh                        | 1988          | Light           |  |
| Cote d'Ivoire                     | 1989          | Moderate        |  |
| Vietnam                           | 1999          | Moderate        |  |
| China                             | 2000          | Light           |  |
|                                   |               |                 |  |

### CLF in Malaysia





- First detected on nursery plants in 1960;
- Detected on field planted plant clone RRIC 103 in the Exchange Clone Trial in 1975
- Occurred on commercially planted field clone RRIM 725
- A national survey was conducted in 1980
- Disease was severe in Southern states especially on Gt 1 and RRIM 600
- CLF is severe in the southern states (Johor, Melaka, N. Sembilan, Pahang and Selangor).

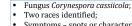
## Corynespora leaf fall







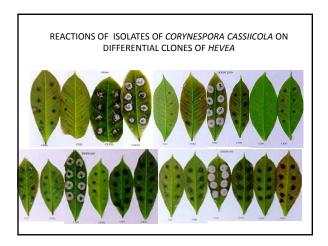




- Symptoms spots or characteristic railway track symptoms.
- Infects young and old leaves, young stems and petioles;
- Causes leaf fall, shoot dieback
- Increase immaturity period, reduces yield and kills plants

#### PHYSIOLOGICAL RACES OF C. cassiicola

- Physiological races of the pathogen exist;
- Two races had been differentiated through traditional as well as molecular methods;
- Both physiological races are present in Malaysia.
- It is important to know the races so as to select proper rubber clones for planting.



## EFFECTIVE FUNGICIDES AGAINST CORYNESPORA

- There are many fungicides effective against Corynespora cassiicola;
- In the earlier days fungicides like thiram, propineb and mancozeb were used;
- Later newer fungicides such as benomyl, prochloraz, hexaconazol and propiconazole were found more effective

#### Fusiccocum leaf disease

- Pathogen is Fusicoccum sp.
- Occurs only in Malaysia
- First detected in 1988 in a FELDA holding in Johor;
- Earlier outbreak occurred in plantings bordering forest due to existence of alternate host;
- Has spread to other areas until Perak;
- Infects young leaves but symptom is obvious on mature leaves;
- Common on immature rubber;
- Causes leaf fall.





#### **BIRD'S EYE SPOT**



- Occur on nursery plants;
- Retards growth and prolong the period of immaturity (budding);
- Symptoms: White dead tissues surrounded by brown necrotic areas

#### **NURSERY DISEASES**



- Bird's eye spot (Drechslera hevea);
- Dieback (Colletotrichum, Phytophthora);
- Control with fungicides





#### **IMPACT OF DISEASES**

- To the tree:
  - Damage and defoliate leaves;
  - Cause shoot and stem dieback;
  - Damage the tapping panel and affect bark renewal;
  - Kill branches and trees
- Economics:
  - Lengthen the immaturity period (>13 years for SALB):
  - Reduce latex yield (30 to 70% reduction);
  - Increase cost of production;
  - Affect the environment.

#### Management of leaf diseases

- Enviromax planting;
- Planting of resistant clones;
- Cultural practices:
  - Artificial defoliation to avoid secondary leaf fall and Corynespora leaf fall;
  - Increase nitrogen manuring for Oidium secondary leaf fall;
- Chemical control.



