QUARANTINE PESTS AND DISEASES OF HEVEA RUBBER

TARGET LEAF SPOT

 Causal fungus: Thanatephorus cucumeris (anamorph: Pellicularia filamentosa);

TARGET LEAF SPOT Young leaves show little brown spots with latex and purple margins on lower surface; Growth of mycelia can be seen later; Mature leaves show light brown lesions with concentric rings (alternating green and dead tissues).

Target leaf spot (*T. cucumeris*)

- An important disease since 1940s but confined more to the Amazon region;
- Requires similar climatic conditions as SALB;
- Had been reported in Thailand and recently in Sri Lanka:
- Spread by basidiospores that are produced at night;
- Infect and cause defoliation of nursery and young plants. One lesion on main vein will cause leaf fall;
- Fungus remain viable on fallen leaves;
- Can be control with fungicides eg. triadimefon.

BLACK CRUST

 Pathogen: Phyllachora huberi (Catacauma huberi);

BLACK CRUST Dark raised black stroma appear as concentric rings separated by leaf tissues on lower leaf surface; On upper leaf surface immediately above lesions' appear yellow circular chlorottic areas. Normally it is not being controlled as it is maintained in suppression. Antagonists: cylindrocladium concentricum and Dicyma pulvinata.

INSECTS

- Lace bug or Mosca de renda (*Leptopharsa heveae*).
- Sphingid moth or Mandarova (Erinyis ello);
- White fly or mosca branca (*Aleurodicus cocois*);

LACE BUG (Mosca de Renda)

Leptopharsa hevea

Leptopharsa heveae on Hevea leaf





Source:Google

LACE BUG (Leptopharsa heveae)



Source: Google

LACE BUG (L. heveae)

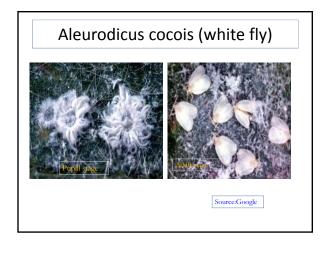
- The most important insect pest of rubber in South America;
- Occurs commonly in rubber plantation and a limiting factor of rubber production;
- Infects the leaves of seedlings and mature plants;
- The adults suck the sap and damage the leaves and reduces photosynthesis;
- Heavy infestation defoliate the tree and repeated defoliation reduce plant growth, reduces latex yield and subject the plants to severe SALB infection;

LACE BUG - CONTROL

- Chemical insecticides (deltamethrin, triclorfon, metamidophos);
- Biological control;
 - -Antagonistic Organisms: *Hirsutella* verticillioides; *Sporothrix insectorum; Verticillium lecanii; Beauveria brongniartii* and *Metarhizium* spp.
- Integrated control using insecticides and biocontrol agents (Beuveria or Metarhizium)
- · Plant resistance.
 - Some clones eg. Fx 4037, RO 38 and RO 46) are not infected



WHITE FLY (MOSCA BRANCA) Aleurodicus cocois





White Moth (A. cocois) Other hosts: coconut, cashew, guava; Increasing importance on rubber plantings in the Amazon region especially in areas with low natural enemies; Cause wilting due to loss of fluid as insects suck plant sap; The honeydew secreted by insects encourages growth of sooty mould that reduces photosynthesis; Severe infestation cause leaf fall; Control: Biological control (Encarsellar noyesi), Natural enemies (Paecilomyces fumosoroseus, Verticillium lecanii, Erythmelus tingitiphagus), Chemical e.g. malathion, endosulfan, mineral oil.



