

Exobasidium fruit and leaf spot

Exobasidium vaccinii (fungus)

This disease occurs sporadically in North Carolina, Mississippi, and Canada.

Symptoms. Small green spots on leaves and fruit appear shortly after bloom and are most severe in the bush interior. Near harvest, a dense white layer of spores develops on the undersides of leaf spots. Spots on fruit fail to ripen, remaining light green and firm.



Light green spots on upper leaf surface (left) and white spore masses underneath (right).

Disease cycle. Infection occurs in spring; spots do not appear on later flushes of growth. Infection does not appear to be systemic.



Management. Removing bushes is not recommended. Improve air movement; fungicides may have some activity.