

# grapes.msu.edu

[Home](#)[About Us](#)[Search](#)[Newsletters](#)[Weather /  
Climate](#)[Viticulture](#)[Pest  
management](#)[Scouting guide](#)[Publications](#)[Calendar of  
events](#)[Industry links](#)[Contacts](#)

Download [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) to view pdf files.

## Bitter rot - *Greeneria uvicola*

Annemiek Schilder, MSU Plant Pathology

[Home](#) > [Scouting guide](#)> bitter rot

Bitter rot is common in southeastern growing regions. It gives the berries a bitter taste that is detectable in wine. After flowering, the fungus infects the berry stem and remains latent until the berry is mature. Then the fungus rapidly invades the berry and sporulates in concentric circles, darkening and roughening the surface. Within a couple of days, the berries soften and easily detach. Berries that do not fall off shrivel up, similar to black rot-infected berries. The optimum temperature for infection is 82° to 86°F (28° to 30°C), but infection can occur at temperatures as low as 54°F (12°C). Fruit injury by insects, birds or cracking can cause bitter rot to spread rapidly throughout the cluster. The fungus invades wounds and overwinters in plant debris and bark of one-year-old canes.



Fruiting bodies.

### Additional information

- Search [MSU Extension News for Agriculture](#) site
- Search [MSU Fruit CAT Alert](#) newsletter for articles
- [MSU Diagnostic Services](#)
- Special [grape disease problems and controls](#) (from [Michigan Fruit Management Guide](#))  
(Download [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#) to view PDF files)

[Site map](#)[Copyright/Linking](#)

Funding for this web site provided by [Project GREEN](#), [American Farmland Trust](#), [EPA Region 5's Strategic Agricultural Initiative program](#), [The National Foundation for IPM Education](#), the [Center for Agricultural Partnerships](#) and the [MSU Integrated Pest Management Program](#) in collaboration with [MSU Extension](#) and the [Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station](#). Partially support from [NC-IPM Center](#).

05/24/11 Contact: [E. Haney](#)