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Alternaria fruit rot - *Alternaria* spp.

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Alternaria fruit rot is a minor problem on sweet and tart cherries. The disease is most severe on overripe fruit or where rain-induced cracking or various physical injuries expose the flesh to infection. Lesions are circular to oblong and slightly sunken, later becoming firm, flattened and wrinkled, and often dark-green to black because of abundant sporulation by the pathogen.



Alternaria rot on dark (left) and gold (right) sweet cherries.

Additional information

- For more monitoring information and evaluation of available pesticides: [Michigan Fruit Management Guide](#)
- [MSU Diagnostic Services](#) for assistance in pest identification.
- [MSU Fruit Crop Advisory Team Alert](#) newsletters for current pest/crop conditions.

Images on this page provided by Alan L. Jones.

This information was developed from A Pocket Guide for IPM Scouting in Stone Fruits by David Epstein, Larry J. Gut, Alan L. Jones and Kimberly Maxson-Stein. Purchase this in a pocket-sized guide for reference in the orchard from [MSU Extension](#) (publication E-2840).

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