

Cherry leaf spot - *Blumeriella jaapii* (Rehm) Arx

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Cherry leaf spot is common on sweet and tart cherry, occasionally on plum. Small, red to purple spots appear on the upper surface of leaves; white to pink spore masses develop during wet weather on the undersides of the spots.

The spots turn brown and often fall out, causing a shot-hole effect, predominantly on tart cherries. Infected leaves rapidly turn yellow and fall off. Whole trees may become defoliated by mid- to late summer. Sporulating, elliptical lesions may develop on the stems of fruits (in photo below). See the table on the next page for predictions of infection severity based on temperature and wetting period length.

Are conditions right for cherry leaf spot?

Forecast models for cherry leaf spot are available at [Enviro-weather](#). Select a weather station from the map that is closest to your location. Then click on “fruit” for a list of weather resources and models for fruit production.



Cherry leaf spot on fruit stems and fruit. Cherry leaf spot infection on sweet cherry leaves. Note red/purple spots. Sporulation on the lower surface (left) and spotting, yellowing (right) of tart cherry leaf caused by cherry leaf spot.

Approximate number of hours of wetting period required for conidial infection by the cherry leaf spot fungus at various air temperatures.

Average temperature		Wetting period (hr) ^b		
		Light infection	Moderate infection	Heavy infection
F	C			
81	27.2	28	43	---
80	26.7	21	35	---
79	26.1	18	30	---
78	25.6	16	27	42
77	25.0	14	24	36
76	24.4	12	21	32
75	23.9	11	19	29
74	23.3	9	18	27
73	22.8	8	16	25
72	22.2	7	15	23
71	21.7	7	14	22
70	21.1	6	13	21
Table continues on next page				
^a Taken from Jones, A. L., and Sutton, T. B. 1996. <i>Diseases of Tree Fruits in the East</i> . North Central Publication NCR-45.				
^b Wetting periods are considered to start when rain begins.				
Average temperature		Wetting period (hr) ^b		
		Light infection	Moderate infection	Heavy infection
F	C			
69	20.6	6	13	20
63-68	17.2-20.0	5	12	19
62	16.7	6	12	19
61	16.1	6	13	20
60	15.6	7	13	20
59	15.0	7	14	21
58	14.4	8	15	22
57	13.9	9	16	23
56	13.3	10	17	24
55	12.8	11	18	25
54	12.2	12	19	27
53	11.7	14	21	29
52	11.1	15	23	31
51	10.6	17	25	33
50	10.0	19	27	35
49	9.4	20	29	38
48	8.9	23	32	42
47	8.3	25	34	46
46	7.8	28	38	51