

Anthracnose appears on the fruit as irregular, water-soaked spots that later enlarge, darken and become sunken in the rind. Copper sprays have been of limited effect in severe situations, but would not be expected to be of much use under normal conditions in Texas.


Common whitefly is about the only insect pest which has affected papaya in Texas, leading to sooty mold on the foliage and fruit. Sweetpotato whitefly also is reported to favor papaya. The safest control is through spraying with a soapy water solution.

Tip burn and marginal necrosis (browning) of the leaves is caused by saline soil and water conditions common in much of Texas. Symptoms are usually more severe on older leaves and during the summer.

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Aggie Horticulture®

Horticulture/Forest Science Building | 2134 TAMU | College Station, TX 77843 |  Map
Phone: (979) 845-5341 | Fax: (979) 845-0627 |

Web Site Maintenance: [Web Administrator](#)

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