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Blackspot Disease of Roses [Abstract]

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Blackspot Disease of Roses [Abstract]

Blackspot disease of roses is the most damaging rose disease of today's modern cultivars. The causal organism, *Diplocarpon rosae*, is spread primarily by water splash and reproduces almost exclusively by asexual acervuli and conidia. Control typically involves the repeated application of fungicides. Different rose species and cultivars have differing levels of resistance of both the vertical (single gene) and horizontal (polygenic) type. This paper discusses the various aspects of blackspot disease, including the disease cycle, ultrastructural aspects of *D. rosae* infection, mechanisms and sources of resistance in today's roses, including the future directions in rose breeding and the production of transgenic roses carrying resistance to blackspot.