

# BIBLIOGRAPHY ON LETHAL YELLOWING OF COCONUT (*Cocos nucifera* Linn.)

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Lethal yellowing is a fatal and an epidemic disease of coconut palm. The first occurrence of this disease was noted in Montego Bay, Jamaica, in 1891 and on the Island of Grand Cayman in 1899. Later this has been reported from Jamaica, Haiti, Bahamas, Cuba, Togoland, West Africa and Ghana. In Florida it was noticed first in a small area of Key West in 1955. Lethal yellowing is estimated to have caused over US \$ 1 billion in losses to valuable ornamental palms with a further \$ 3 million for removal of dead trunks in Florida.

Growth retardation, yellowing, blackened spathes and inflorescences and premature nutfall are the symptoms of this disease.

Lethal yellowing is not soil-borne and there is no evidence for transmission by fungi or nematodes. Research on the disease implicates a mycoplasma as the causal agent. Recently positive results of transmission by the insect *Myndus* (*Haplaxius*) *graudus* have been reported.

The control measures are cutting trees in advanced stages of disease, replanting or underplanting with the Malayan dwarf variety which is resistant to lethal yellowing. Injection with one gram of actual oxytetracycline in  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. water at 4-month intervals has proved highly effective in controlling the disease.

This bibliography has 161 entries contributed by 88 authors. The arrangement of the entries are in alphabetical order of the name of the author(s) and serially numbered. An author index is also appended.

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