

RHIZOMANIA

Beet Necrotic Yellow Vein



photo by: J. Gallin



photo by: J. Gallin

Identification

- Rhizomania is one of the most destructive beet diseases
- Can cause a 100% loss in an infected field
- The disease is transmitted and carried by a fungus
- The fungus is carried by the wind, equipment, and tail water
- Excessive water and poor soil structure influence the development and propagation of the fungus

Detection

- Stunting of the root
- Large number of small lateral roots growing out of the main tap root
- The beet will have a heavy bearded look
- The root may be small with dark veins or totally rotted off
- The vascular rings are visibly darkened
- Leaves will be bright in color and extend upright from an abnormally large crown
- Leaves may wilt and become flabby
- Leaves may show yellowing veins

Beet Damage

- Infection blocks moisture and nutrients from entering the beet

Control

- Resistant varieties
- Avoid planting in infected fields
- Long crop rotations (May not be effective)
- Early planting to have a larger canopy developed before warm temperatures arrive