

Leaf mold on tomatoes

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*Leaf mold is a disease that attacks tomatoes grown in greenhouses or plastic tunnels. However, when the weather is very humid, it is also observed in open-field beds and in gardens. Causal agent – *Cladosporium fulvum*.*

The first visible symptoms of the disease should be looked for on the leaves of the lower tiers of the plants. On the upper side of the leaves, pale, diffuse spots are observed; on the underside a light, and later a velvety coating is formed. Many spots may develop on a single leaf. The affected tissues become necrotic, and under severe infestation the damaged leaves fall off.

Pest control strategies:

- Ensure good ventilation in greenhouses, air humidity below 70% and a temperature of 18-22°C.
- Balanced mineral fertilization;

- Favourable water and air regime;
- Resistant varieties;
- Soil disinfection after the end of the vegetation period;
- Upon appearance of the disease, treat with one of the authorised fungicides.

Authorised plant protection products:

SYNSTAR – 70-80 ml/ha and CIDELY TOP – 100 ml/ha, SINGUN – 100-150 g/ha (its authorisation expires on 09.06.2017).