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## ***Tomato: Sunscald***

*Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for successful plant problem management.*

### ***Biology***

Sunscald of tomato fruits frequently occurs in hot, dry weather, but may occur whenever green fruit is suddenly exposed to direct sun. The sunward side of green fruit develops a yellowish, light brown, or white leathery patch, which may become wrinkled or blisterlike as the fruit matures. On ripe tomatoes, the damaged areas appear as flattened, grayish-white patches with a papery texture. The spots are sometimes attacked by rot organisms, causing fruit decay.

### ***Management Options***

#### **Non-Chemical Management**

- ~ Plant varieties with good foliage density.
- ~ Use care when pruning plants, so that fruits are not suddenly exposed to the sun.
- ~ Prevent or control diseases which cause leaf loss.

*Select non-chemical management options as your first choice!*

#### **Chemical Management**

*IMPORTANT: Visit Home and Garden Fact Sheets for more information on using pesticides*

None recommended

***Tomato: Sunscald***

***Images***



~ Caption: Sunscald  
~ Photo by: F. Buajaila



~ Caption: Sunscald  
~ Photo by: C. Miles