

# Tomato Disease Management Timeline for Indiana

Compiled by Dan Egel, Extension Plant Pathologist, Southwest Purdue Agricultural Center • (812) 886-0198 [egel@purdue.edu](mailto:egel@purdue.edu)

Use this timeline to determine the appropriate disease management measures for tomato diseases common to Indiana.

Disease/Disorder	Winter/Off-season	Greenhouse	Planting	Fruit Set	Harvest
anthracnose	Rotate crops at least 2-3 years and practice fall tillage.			Begin fungicide applications at or shortly before first fruit set.	Inspect fruit for lesions.
bacterial canker	Rotate crops at least 3-4 years and practice fall tillage. May be seedborne.	Inspect seedlings for symptoms and apply fixed copper compounds as needed.	Do not plant seedlings with bacterial canker symptoms.	Inspect plants for bacterial canker symptoms.	Inspect fruit for bacterial canker symptoms. Avoid saving seed.
bacterial spot/speck	Rotate crops at least 2-3 years and practice fall tillage. May be seedborne.	Inspect seedlings for symptoms and apply fixed copper compounds as needed.	Do not plant seedlings with symptoms of bacterial spot/speck. Begin fixed copper applications on a 7-14-day schedule.		Inspect fruit for bacterial spot/speck symptoms. Avoid saving seed.
blossom-end rot	Conduct pre-season soil tests for calcium and consider adding calcium and lime amendments.		Maintain regular irrigation schedule. Choose less susceptible varieties. Calcium nitrate through the drip may help reduce symptoms in future fruit sets. Foliar calcium application is not recommended.		Inspect fruit for symptoms.
Botrytis gray mold	Rotate crops at least 2-3 years and practice fall tillage. Keep calcium at adequate levels.	Keep temperatures 70°F or higher and relative humidity less than 90%.	Begin protective fungicide applications.		Inspect fruit for symptoms.
buckeye rot and Phytophthora root rot	Rotate crops at least every 3 years and practice fall tillage. Avoid poorly drained soils. Use raised beds. Mulch may lessen buckeye rot's impact.		Consider fungicide drench. Regular fungicide schedule may lessen buckeye rot effects.	Consider specialized fungicides for Phytophthora diseases.	Inspect fruit.
early blight/Septoria	Use crop rotations of at least 2-3 years for Septoria and 3-4 years for early blight.		Begin protective fungicide applications on a 7-14 day schedule.		
white mold (timber rot)	Long rotations with corn or small grains. Growers should especially avoid rotations with tomato, peppers, potato, and snap beans.	White mold may be common where tomatoes are grown yearly in the same soil such as under a greenhouse structure. The biological pesticide Contans® may be applied prior to planting or after harvest.		Inspect plants for symptoms of white mold (timber rot).	
leaf mold	Rotate crops at least 2-3 years and practice fall tillage. Use sanitation in greenhouse tomatoes.	Leaf mold is more common on tomatoes grown to maturity in the greenhouse/high tunnel than those grown in the field.	Control relative humidity by venting greenhouse and pruning. Labeled fungicides may help control leaf mold.		

### Post-Harvest Care

Firm-ripe tomatoes should be cooled to 45-50°F. Clean and disinfect all picking containers and equipment. Maintain chlorine/bromine levels at 75-150 ppm at a pH of 6.5-8.5 in recirculating water systems.

More information about disease management is available in the *Midwest Vegetable Production Guide for Commercial Growers*, [mwvegguide.org](http://mwvegguide.org). Keep current during the season about diseases and more with the Vegetable Crops Hotline, [veg hotline.org](http://veg hotline.org).

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