

POWDERY SCAB (*Spongospora subterranea*)

Although powdery scab develops best under cool (between 16 - 20°C) and moist conditions, it is found in almost all the potato-producing countries in the world. Powdery Scab of potatoes is caused by the fungus *Spongospora subterranea*.

Disease symptoms



Powdery scab can easily be mistaken for brown scurf. The lesions of powdery scab are usually smaller and round with well defined edges. The first tuber symptoms are very small light brown raised areas.

The lesions enlarge and the skin covering the lesions, filled with dark brown to black powdery spore balls, crack thereby exposing the spores.

The lesions are usually surrounded by the raised, torn edge of the burst periderm.



Optimal conditions for disease

Powdery scab develops best in cool (between 16 - 20°C), moist conditions and heavy soil with a pH between 4,7 and 7,6.

Other Hosts

Any tuber-bearing *Solanum* spp.