



Disease: Strawberry Leaf Scorch (Candidatus Phytoplasma fragariae) (Strawberry)

Explanation (English):

Strawberry leaf scorch is a disease caused by the phytoplasma *Candidatus Phytoplasma fragariae**

Phytoplasmas are bacteria that lack cell walls and live within the phloem (food-conducting tissue) of plants

Infection leads to a characteristic scorching or burning appearance on the leaf margins, starting at the tips and progressing inward

This scorching is often reddish-brown in color

Other symptoms include stunted growth, reduced fruit yield, proliferation of leaves (producing a witches' broom effect)

The disease is spread by leafhoppers, which act as vectors, transferring the phytoplasma from infected to healthy plants

Explanation (Hindi):

Strawberry leaf scorch (Candidatus Phytoplasma fragariae) Strawberry

Precautions (English):

Preventing and managing strawberry leaf scorch relies on several strategies: ***Planting certified disease-free plants

Purchase planting material from reputable nurseries that guarantee disease-free stock

***Vector control:** Manage leafhopper populations through the use of appropriate insecticides

Consult with local agricultural extension services for recommendations on effective and environmentally sound insecticides

Regular monitoring for leafhoppers is crucial

***Sanitation:** Remove and destroy infected plants promptly to prevent the spread of the disease

Do not compost infected plant material

***Crop rotation:** Rotating crops can help reduce the build-up of the disease in the soil

***Weed control:** Weeds can harbor leafhoppers and other disease vectors, so maintaining a weed-free environment is important