GUAM PEST SERIES

Cooperative Extension System, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Guam, UOG Station, Mangilao, GU 96923





Mite damage on an older leaf

Mite damage on a tender leaf

Common Name: Yam Rust Mite

Scientific Name: Calacarus dioscoreae (Eriophydae)

Adult mite, Calacarus dioscoreae

The yam rust mite is a vagrant. It does not form erinea or galls. It is purplish-gray in color and is found on the surface of the leaves of cultivated yam (*Dioscorea* sp.). Since the eriophyid mites are very small, a compound dissection microscope is required to detect them. Severe infestation by this mite causes young leaves to become curled and chlorotic. Older leaves show reddish-brown discolorations on the leaf surface in between the veins. This mite is transferred from infested plants to healthy ones by wind or by contaminated planting materials, clothing and equipment.

Control:

- 1. Avoid planting material from infested plants.
- 2. Apply miticides for control. Consult with an Agricultural Extension Agent for recommendation of chemicals. You can contact an agent by calling 734-2575, 734-2579, 734-2518 or 734-4753.

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The Cooperative Extension System. Issued in furtherence of Cooperative Extension Work, Acts of May 8, and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. C. T. Lee, Director, Cooperative Extension System, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Guam. "The programs of the University of Guam Cooperative Extension System are open to all regardless of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or handicap."