

## INSV on Peperomia



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*INSV was the cause of irregular dark lesions and ringspots on leaves of Peperomia. Interestingly, the most obvious symptoms were seen on the leaf undersides – an excellent reminder that it is important to flip the leaves over when scouting.*

Two types of Peperomia had symptoms of scattered irregular leaf spots and occasional ringspots and arch-shaped spots. On *Peperomia obtusifolia*, irregular, small, dark leaf spots were seen with conspicuous ringspots on the leaf undersides. On *Peperomia caperata*, a few ring- and arch-shaped spots and irregular lesions were seen on the leaf surface, with many ringspots on the leaf undersides

What was surprising, for both types of Peperomia, was that more symptoms were seen on the undersides of the leaves than on the upper leaf surfaces. On some leaves there were no symptoms on the upper surface, and the conspicuous ring spots were only found on the leaf undersides. This is an excellent reminder that when scouting it is important to flip the leaves over!



Conspicuous ring spots and patterns on leaf undersides of Peperomia, caused by INSV. Photo: Nora Catlin

Samples were tested using an Agdia test strip ([www.agdia.com](http://www.agdia.com)) and were positive for *Impatiens spot necrotic virus* (INSV).

INSV can cause a variety of symptoms, which can vary depending on the plant host. Other symptoms can include leaf mottle (irregular patches of light and dark green colors), stem or petiole blackening, leaf necrosis, or stunt. A good number of e-Gro Alerts have covered symptoms on different host plants; you

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can find these Alerts by using the Alert Search on the home page, <https://www.e-gro.org/alerts.php>. Just type in INSV for all the Alerts about INSV. I recommend also taking a look at the Alerts written on TSWV, the closely related *Tomato spotted wilt virus*. INSV and TSWV can produce similar symptoms, and are both transmitted by western flower thrips.

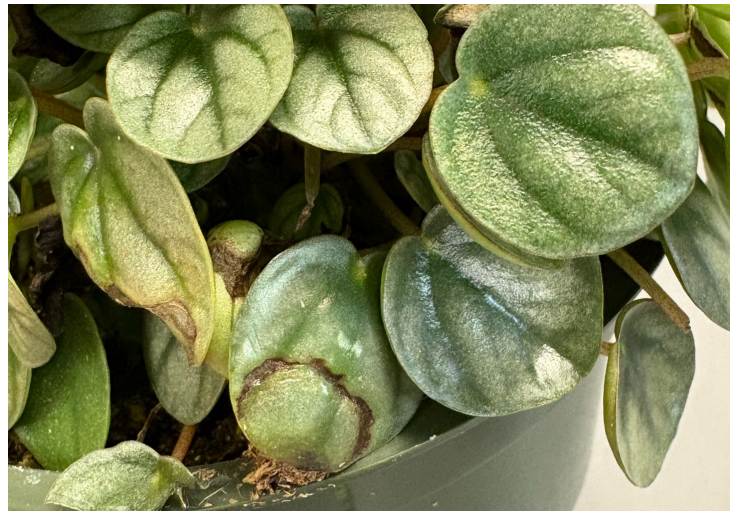
Once the virus is confirmed through a diagnostic lab or an in-house test, know that the plants cannot be cured and can serve as reservoirs of the virus. Remember that this virus is spread by western flower thrips, so make sure you stay on top of management of this pest.



INSV on *Peperomia obtusifolia*. Occasional irregular and arc-shaped lesions were seen on the foliage. Photo: Nora Catlin



INSV on *Peperomia caperata*. On these leaves there were no symptoms on the upper leaf surface, but conspicuous ring spots and patterns on the leaf undersides. Photo: Nora Catlin



INSV on *Peperomia caperata*. Occasional arc-shaped or irregular lesions were seen on the foliage. Photo: Nora Catlin



INSV on *Peperomia obtusifolia*. Small, dark, irregular lesions can be seen on the leaf surface, and conspicuous ring spots on the leaf underside. Photo: Nora Catlin



INSV on *Peperomia caperata*. Occasional ringspots were seen on the foliage. Photo: Nora Catlin

**e-GRO Alert**

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