



Frosty pot rot also called ‘Moniliophthora roreri’ or Monilia is an invasive fungus that affects cocoa. The disease can be carried by the wind, and it was native to North-Western South American countries. It originated in Western Colombia/Ecuador.



The disease reduces yields by 80% once contact has been created. It sometimes leads to complete crop failure. This can have deep economic impacts attributed to affected agroforests, loss of habitats for wildlife, and soil erosion. The disease primarily hits the fruits of the cocoa plant and eventually kills the plant.



Education on the risks of moving these pods from affected areas must be done.

Removal of diseased cocoa pods must be done before the pathogen sporulates.



Burning and obliterating these cocoa plants before the pod turns frosty is important after harvesting.