



### SESAM PHYLLODY

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#### Introduction

Abnormal development of floral part into leafy structure is called phyllody. Its etiology is obscure. It is generally caused by phytoplasma but environmental factor is also responsible for this disease that results in imbalance in plant hormones, Sim *et al* 2004. Effected plant unable to produce flower thus become partially or entirely sterile.

#### Symptom

The major symptoms of disease are floral virescence phyllody and proliferation. Other symptoms are yellowing, cracking of seed capsules, germination of seeds in capsules and formation of dark exudates on foliage. Mor and Zieslin 1992. All floral parts are transformed into green leafy structures. Abundant vein clearing in different flower parts. In severe infection, the entire inflorescences is replaced by short twisted leaves. Finally, plants look like witches broom. Plant do not yield quality seeds if capsules are formed on lower portion of plant Transmitted by the vector plant hopper (*Orosius albicinctus*)

#### Management

Remove and destroy the plant

To control vector, spray Monocrotophos 36 or Dimethoate 30 EC 500ml/ha combined with intercropping , Trivedi, 2006

#### Reference

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