# Tawny rust **Orange rust Brown rust** Common disease **Observed in South** Southern Africa 2008 / 09 Africa in February 2022 in southern No other reports outside Africa region May 2023

### **Brown rust**

## Tawny rust

### **Orange rust**

#### Lesions (marks) on leaf:

- Dark brown to reddish-brown
- Up to 20mm long and 3mm wide
- More concentrated near the leaf tip

#### **Spores:**

- Cinnamon to brown when fresh
- Mainly on lower leaf surface
- Very rarely on upper leaf surface
- · Usually sparse

#### Age of cane:

Usually 6 months or younger

#### Favoured by:

- Cool (16 to 22°C), misty or light rain, heavy dews, high humidity
- Limited by temperatures exceeding 30°C

#### Season:

 Most common but not limited to April to June, August to September / October

#### Lesions (marks) on leaf:

- Dark brown to reddish-brown, may be some purpling around the border
- Up to 20mm long and 3mm wide
- More concentrated near the leaf tip

#### **Spores:**

- Bright orange when fresh
- Mainly on lower leaf surface but also on upper leaf surface
- Abundant, easily transferred to clothes and skin

#### Age of cane:

- All ages
- On young plants, often most severe on the leaves closest to the ground

#### Favoured by:

- Cool (15 to 23°C), misty or light rain, heavy dews, high humidity
- Limited by temperatures exceeding 30°C

#### Season:

 Most common but not limited to April to June, August to October

#### Lesions (marks) on leaf:

- Orange to orange-brown to reddish brown
- Up to 4 mm long and 0.5mm wide
- Often more severe in the middle of the leaf, extending to leaf tip
- May be confused with yellow sugarcane aphid (YSA) damage

#### Spores:

- Orange to cinnamon-brown
- Mainly on lower leaf surface but may be observed on upper surface when severe
- Relatively abundant

#### Age of cane:

All ages

#### Favoured by:

- Warm, wet, high humidity
- Limited by temperatures exceeding 30°C

#### Season:

 Most common but not limited to December to May

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