

# SUGARCANE RUST



**Brown rust**



**Tawny rust**



**Orange rust**

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**Orange rust**

# Brown rust

Lesions (marks) on leaf:

- cinnamon brown to dark brown
- up to 20 mm long
- more severe towards leaf tip

Spores:

- brown when fresh
- usually only on the lower leaf surface

Favoured by cool, moist weather  
Common in autumn and spring

Tends to occur on young crops  
(< 6 months)

# Tawny rust

Lesions (marks) on leaf:

- orange to reddish-brown
- similar in size to brown rust
- more severe towards leaf tip

Spores:

- orange when fresh, profuse
- also occur on upper leaf surface

Favoured by cool, moist weather  
Common in autumn and spring

Has been observed on cane of  
all ages

# Orange rust

Lesions (marks) on leaf:

- orange to reddish brown
- up to 4 mm long
- more severe towards leaf base

Spores:

- orange when fresh
- usually only on the lower leaf surface

Favoured by humid, warm  
conditions  
Common from January to May

Has been observed on cane of  
all ages

# CONFUSING SYMPTOMS!

Brown rust



Orange rust



Yellow sugarcane aphid (YSA) damage



Mite damage



Orange rust

Spores on lower leaf surface  
Rough appearance



Yellow sugarcane aphid (YSA) damage

Upper and lower  
leaf surface smooth



# BROWN RUST

New 2024



# TAWNY RUST

New 2024



Lower leaf surface



Upper leaf surface

# ORANGE RUST

Updated 2024





# RUST SEVERITY CHART



**Mild**



**Moderate**



**Severe**