

## **Tomato/Tobacco Ringspot Virus Decline**

Tomato and tobacco ringspot virus decline is caused by two closely related viruses: Tomato Ringspot Virus (TomRSV) and Tobacco Ringspot Virus (TRSV) respectively. Based on symptoms these two viruses cannot be separated. In the year infection occurs, mosaic and leaf chlorosis is usually evident. More severe symptoms are pronounced in the second year. The vines are generally weaker and buds die more readily from freezing winter temperatures. Smaller leaves, shorter internodes, and reduced yield are typical symptoms for these two viruses. In the third year the vine is significantly stunted but may survive for more than three years with no yield. The control of TomRSV and TRSV is mainly by using virus-free material but resistant varieties and rootstocks may be utilized. Large numbers of plant species can host these viruses, therefore weed infestation should be reduced.