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## Management of *Ganoderma* Diseases in Oil Palm Plantations\*

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*Basal stem rot (BSR) and upper stem rot (USR) caused by Ganoderma spp are important diseases of oil palm in Malaysia and Indonesia. Brief descriptions of the two diseases are given. The economic importance of these diseases, especially BSR, appears in causing high mortality of mature palms from 10 years onward up to 25 years. The reduction in palm stands and the lower FFB yield in BSR palms are responsible for serious losses. Several alternative host plants, crop residues of diseased oil palm and the airborne basidiospores are inoculum sources of these two diseases. The mode of disease spread is briefly discussed. The practices of disease management including R&D are listed and briefly described in the following sub-headings, namely soil mounding, surgery, trenching, sanitation, ploughing and harrowing, planting legume cover crops, chemical treatment, biological control, resistant planting materials and fertiliser inputs. Both sanitation and isolation trenching supported by trial evidence have practical applied benefits in field management of BSR. These measures are listed for ease of reference in commercial practice.*

**Keywords :** *Ganoderma diseases, disease management, sanitation, trenching, oil palm.*

