

Combating diseases

Rainy weather in June has contributed to plant disease problems in some areas. Appearance of a variety of leafspot fungi on trees, shrubs and flowers has made home gardeners in these areas very conscious of the need to protect their plants.

Spraying with chemical fungicides is often helpful or necessary to control certain diseases in the home garden. But University of Delaware Extension plant pathologist Bob Mulrooney says fungicides aren't the only tool that can be used to combat plant diseases.

Home gardeners can reduce the incidence and severity of these diseases in many other ways, too. Here are some of his suggestions.

- Select a suitable location for planting. Some plants like sunny spots while others prefer more shade. Avoid extremely wet soils since they favor many root diseases. Improve drainage, where possible, to reduce these diseases.
- Practice rotation within your garden plot. Change its location occasionally, if this is possible. This helps prevent the build-up of disease-causing organisms.
 - Select disease-resistant

varieties when they're available. Check with your nursery or garden center about this important matter before making a purchase.

 Use only disease-free seed and transplants. Buy from a reputable seed company, greenhouse operator or nurseryman. Don't accept any plants (even at bargain prices) that appear to be unhealthy. Many disease-causing organisms can be carried to your garden on seeds or transplants.

- Fertilize your garden on the basis of soil test results. Plants that are too weak or too vigorous as a result of improper fertilization are more subject to diseases.

- Don't overcrowd plants. Crowding results in high humidity beneath the plant canopy--a condition which favors certain diseases such as downy mildew and Botrytis blight. Thin plants to permit free air circulation.

-- Water properly. Try to maintain an even moisture supply and avoid wet-dry fluctuations. Avoid watering late in the day, as this favors disease development. Too much moisture also favors several root and foliage diseases.

- Control insect pests. These may carry and spread certain



WAYNE, N.J. - A free booklet, "HOME AND GARDEN INSECT CONTROL," a concise and informative brochure on the control of insects in fruits, vegetables and ornamentals is now available from American Cyanamid Company.

The booklet, which is written for the homeowner, details the amount of insecticide one should use as well as the proper timing for application. It also includes sections on controlling mosquitos, flies and

To receive a free copy of HOME AND GARDEN INSECT CONTROL," MALATHION/H-G, Dept. 614, American Cyanamid Company, One Cyanamid Plaza, Wayne, New Jersey 07470.

virus and bacterial diseases, such as bacterial wilt on cucumbers.

- Destroy diseased plants as soon as you see them in your garden. Otherwise they may serve as an infection source for other

- Spade under or remove and compost crop refuse as soon as possible after you harvest your garden. This helps eliminate

NPC goes to New Orleans in 1983

Martinsburg, WV - New Orleans - famous for its jazz, its cuisine, its architecture, and its colorful history - will be the site of the 1983 National Peach Coucil Convention, February 16-20, at the luxurious Fairmont Hotel.

In keeping with the general convention theme, the program has been divided into three sections: "Peaches, Toot Your Own Horn," "Keeping In Step With Change," and "Tune Up With New Ideas." A variety of production, research, promotion, and marketing topics will be discussed during these sessions.

The trade show adjacent to the meeting rooms, will provide excellent opportunities for exhibitors to display their newest equipment or services and for growers to shop in one location for the products and services necessary for a profitable orchard business.

The convention hotel is just a block from the French Quarter. The Fairmont is the perfect location for NPC members to gather for the important educational and business sessions of the convention and within easy walking distance of the gaiety and

disease-causing organisms which

can overwinter in crop debris left

lying on the ground. - Remove and destroy diseased tree and shrub branches before infection spreads. It's wise to prune out diseased plant tissues during the dormant period in fall or spring. Rake and destroy fallen leaves, since many diseasecausing organisms live from one season to the next in them.

excitement of the French Quarter.

Registration fees are \$300 per couple or \$150 for each single person attending. Room rates at the Fairmont for NPC attendees range from \$65 to \$95 for a single room and \$75 to \$105 for a double room. Reservations need to be made early and registration fees must be paid in order to obtain a room at the Fairmont.

The convention will officially open on Wednesday, February 16, the day after Mardi Gras. Since travel in the city will be almost impossible on Tuesday, it is recommended that attendees plan to arrive either before Mardi Gras or early on Wednesday to be there in time for the opening of the convention on Wednesday evening.

Plans should be made now to join others in the peach industry at the Fairmont Hotel, February 16-20, 1983, for one of NPC's greatest conventions. For more information and/or registration forms contact National Peach Council, P.O.Box 1085, Martinsburg, WV 25401, 304/267-6024.

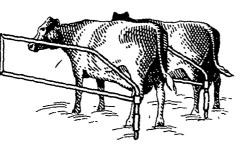


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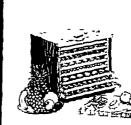
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