e-GRO Alert

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Greenhouse Observations:

Highlighting current disorders

Most e-GRO Alerts focus on a single disorder, pest, or disease. In this Alert, eight disorders that were observed during recent greenhouse visits are highlighted.

Natural pest control on hydrangea. (Photo: © Brian Whipker, 2020)

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Southern Blight

Southern blight (*Sclerotium rolfsii*) is a disease with a wide host range. The disease is also called Southern stem blight or white mold. Infestations are common in the field and rarely occur in greenhouse conditions unless infected plant material such as perennials or contaminated substrates are used.

More information can be found at: *https://www.apsnet.org/edcenter/disandpath/fungalbasidio/pdlessons/Pages/SouthernBlight.aspx*

(Photos: © Brian Whipker, 2020)

Collapse of dianthus seedling plants.

White mycelium spreads and infects plants.

Mustard-seed-sized sclerotia appear from the white mold growth, and are initially a creamy white.

Sclerotia mature and turn a reddish-brown coloration.

Close up of sclerotia on the substrate surface.

Florel Spray Overdose

Florel is an excellent plant growth regulator used to improve branching and knock off flower buds. In this case, the Florel was not thoroughly mixed in the spray container and gave the initial plants sprayed an overdose.

(Photos: © Brian Whipker, 2020)

Plant wilting

Leaf spots and wilting

Leaf distortion

New growth distorted

Splitting of the growing stem

Bacterial Leaf Spot

Angular leaf spots are a key diagnostic sign of a bacterial leaf spot. Test the plants at a lab to confirm your diagnosis.

Additional information can be found at:

https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/leaf-spotting-bacteria-on-ornamentals

(Photos: © Brian Whipker, 2020)

Water soaked leaves are also a sign the plant may be infected with a bacterial leaf spot.

Water soaked leaves on a tray in propagation

Angular leaf spot close up

Magnesium deficiency on petunias.

Chlormequat chloride (Cycocel) leaf burn.

Agrobacterium

Scented geraniums are commonly infected with agrobacterium Galls often appears at the soil line.

Additional information can be found at:

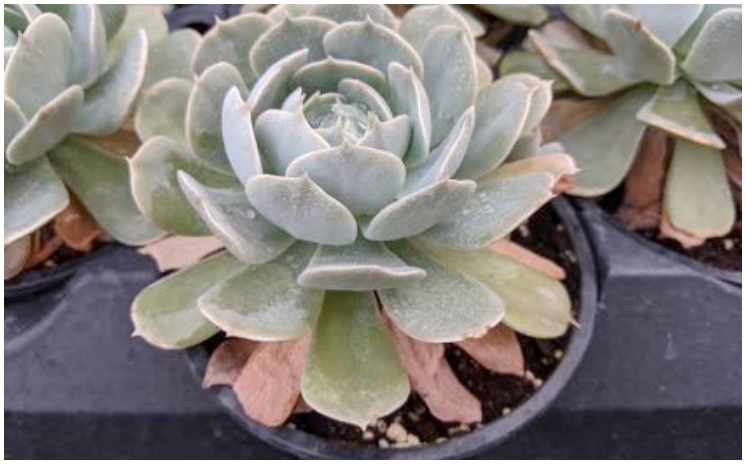
https://bpp.oregonstate.edu/plant-clinic/plant-diseases/rhodococcus-and-agrobacterium

(Photos: © Brian Whipker, 2020)

Mass of growth observed at the soil line.

Larger stem mass appearing at the soil line.

Shoot death occurs as the disease progresses.



Too low of a fertilization rate with succulents will result in lower leaf loss.

Aphid infestation on ornamental kale.

e-GRO Alert

www.e-gro.org

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