

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO COMMON PLANT DISEASES

Symptom	Cause	Treatment
White powdery substance on upper surface of leaves	Powdery Mildew, which occurs when humidity is high	Improve air circulation, treat with fungicide
Brown, water-soaked spots on petals, flowers or leaves; buds don't open	Botrytis blight; can be severe in high humidity	Destroy affected parts; improve soil drainage; treat with fungicide
Rusty orange spots on leaves and stems	Rust	Destroy affected parts; try to keep foliage dry, treat with fungicide
Black spots on rose leaves; leaves become yellow and drop	Black Spot, a soil-born fungal disease	Clean up fallen leaves; treat with fungicide such as garden sulphur. Use lime sulphur and dormant spray in spring as preventative; spray soil as well as plant
Wilting plants, discoloured leaves	Wilt or under/over watering	Check soil for watering problem. If water is not the problem destroy entire plant.
Circular tarry black spots on leaves of maple trees	Tar Spot, fungus in the genus Rhytisma	Rake all diseased leaves as they fall and compost away from maple trees. Trees can be pruned to improve air circulation through the tree canopy. This will facilitate quick drying of leaves and help reduce infection and disease severity the following spring.
Stems of seedlings collapse at soil line and fall over	Damping-off, soilborne fungi, species of Phyium, Phytophthora, Rhizoctonia and Fusarium	The disease is easier to prevent than cure. Use <input type="checkbox"/> o-Damp which contains Oxine benzoate to prevent symptoms.