

(revision date:4/30/2013)

## ***Common Cultural: Marginal leaf necrosis***

*Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for successful plant problem management.*

### ***Biology***

Marginal leaf necrosis can be caused by numerous factors that restrict the flow of water to the leaves, such as drought, salt damage (fertilization), root rot, cankers, excessive heat, and chemical injury. Symptoms include browning and dieback of leaf edges and tips, sometimes extending into the leaf between the major veins.

### ***Management Options***

#### **Non-Chemical Management**

- ~ Irrigate plants as needed to keep soil moist.
- ~ Apply an organic mulch over the root zone to reduce water evaporation from the soil and to modify soil temperatures.
- ~ Improve drainage if the soil is soggy.
- ~ Proper planting techniques can prevent problems. Break up and spread matted circling roots to ensure good root growth into the surrounding soil.
- ~ Fertilize moderately.
- ~ Match plant species/varieties to the environment.

*Select non-chemical management options as your first choice!*

#### **Chemical Management**

***IMPORTANT: Visit Home and Garden Fact Sheets for more information on using pesticides***

None recommended

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*Images*



~ Caption: Marginal leaf necrosis  
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther



~ Caption: Marginal leaf necrosis  
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther



~ Caption: Rhododendron marginal leaf necrosis  
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther