

(revision date:4/30/2013)

Common Diseases: Root rots

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

Biology

Many different fungi that infect root tissues cause similar symptoms: off-color foliage, stunting, wilting, and death. Laboratory isolation and microscopic examination are needed for specific diagnosis. *Cylindrocladium*, *Fusarium*, *Rhizoctonia*, and *Pythium* are common fungal root rot pathogens.

Management Options

Non-Chemical Management

- ~ Correct drainage if water puddles near plants.
- ~ Plant only in deep, well-drained soil.
- ~ Avoid planting susceptible plants into soil with a history of root rot problems
- ~ Remove and destroy infected plant materials including roots when feasible to prevent spread of disease.
- ~ Do not replant in infested potting soil. Clean pots and containers prior to reuse.

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: Pansy *Rhizoctonia* root rot
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther



~ Caption: *Phytophthora* root rot on cedar
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther



~ Caption: *Phytophthora* root rot infecting trunk
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther



~ Caption: *Cylindrocladium* root rot
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther



~ *Caption: Dieback on creeping hemlock due to
Phytophthora root rot*
~ *Photo by: R.S. Byther*