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## ***Rhododendron: Botrytis shoot blight***

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

### ***Biology***

Botrytis shoot blight is a fungal disease found on shoots in early spring. Symptoms of infection include brown, water-soaked spots on the shoots and masses of gray spores which may be formed on infected tissues. Infected shoots either bend over at the lesion or die back.

### ***Management Options***

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

- ~ Good air circulation is essential. Space plantings to allow good air flow and reduce humidity.
- ~ Avoid overhead watering where possible. If you must use overhead watering, limit to morning hours so foliage will dry during the day.
- ~ Prune out infected tissue, making cuts into healthy wood and disinfecting pruning tools between cuts.
- ~ Clean up and destroy any diseased material beneath plants.

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

#### **Chemical Management**

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

Apply once in spring when symptoms are first noticed. Homeowners should not make foliar applications to trees over 10 ft tall. Consult a commercial pesticide applicator for treatment of trees and shrubs over 10 ft. tall.

*Rhododendron: Botrytis shoot blight*

*Images*



~ Caption: *Botrytis shoot blight*  
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