

(revision date:6/5/2018)

## ***Rhododendron: Sunburn***

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

### ***Biology***

Sunscald is caused by exposure of the leaves to bright sunlight during hot weather. Sunscalded leaves on rhododendrons generally have a yellow to brown blotch in the center. Often this blotch has a yellow halo surrounding it. Typically the outside leaves on the southern and southwestern sides of the plant are most severely affected.

### ***Management Options***

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

- ~ Choose the right plant for the location. Some rhododendron varieties can tolerate more sun exposure than others.
- ~ Proper irrigation during hot weather can increase the plant's resistance to sunscald.
- ~ Provide partial shade with other plantings or move the plant to a less-sunny location.

*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: Sunburn on rhododendron  
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther*



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