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Geranium: Botrytis leaf spot and blossom blight

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

Biology

Botrytis is a fungus which thrives under mild environmental conditions. Brown, water-soaked areas appear on leaves and petals. The spots soon dry out and become covered with gray-brown masses of fungal growth. Flowers wilt and drop. Brown leaf lesions often result after petals drop on leaves. Stock plants may show a stem blight.

Management Options

Non-Chemical Management

- ~ An integrated strategy combining environmental management and cultural practices will best manage this disease.
- ~ Remove and burn infected leaves.
- ~ Increase spacing between plants.
- ~ Water at base of plants and/or with drip irrigation, do not wet foliage.

Select non-chemical management options as your first choice!

Chemical Management

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

Disease should be managed with cultural controls.

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Images



*~ Caption: Botrytis blight damage on geranium flower
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther*



*~ Caption: Botrytis blight damage on geranium leaf
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther*