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Fuchsia: Black root rot

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

Biology

Black root rot is caused by a widely distributed fungal root pathogen. Untreated or mismanaged field soil can be the source of the fungus. Spores can be found in commercial peat moss. The pathogen forms thick-walled chlamyospores, which can survive for several years in the soil. Materials exuded by roots stimulate germination of chlamyospores. Root rot tends to worsen in neutral or alkaline soils, and is generally of greater concern in soil temperatures between 55 and 70 degrees F, and soil that holds a lot of moisture. Fuchsias may appear chlorotic or stunted. Roots initially appear brown, and eventually develop flat, black lesions.

Management Options

Non-Chemical Management

- ~ Use soilless planting media.
- ~ Dispose of affected plants and related material quickly.
- ~ Prevent contact of contaminated tools or hands with planting media.
- ~ Keep propagation and growing areas clean.

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: *Fuchsia black root rot*
~ Photo by: *L.J. du Toit*