

Fuchsia Rust- Rick Yates, Technical Services Manager, Griffin Greenhouse and Nursery Supplies, Inc. - March 13, 2007

Fuchsia rust is distinguishable by the bright orange powder that can be found on the top and bottom leaf surfaces. Sometimes a circle of tan paper thin damaged tissue will be present with a dark purple ring around it. It can disfigure leaves and even cause defoliation if not treated. The alternate hosts for this crop are fir and fireweed¹ so in the greenhouse we are not concerned with cross-contamination.



Treatment strategies:

- Where practical begin by removing symptomatic leaves. Check the surface of the soil for leaves that have fallen off. Place inside a sealed plastic bag and remove from the greenhouse. Dispose of this material; do not try to compost it.
- Immediately apply a systemic fungicide. Eagle is a good choice but Strike, Phyton-27, Cleary's 3336/OHP6672 and Clevis, (contains the same a.i. as Eagle as well as mancozeb), are also good options. Make 2 applications about 10 day apart. After the second application a long term protectant such as Compass or Heritage can be applied to guard against a re-occurrence. Use with CapSil at ½ tsp per gallon or 8 oz per 100 gallons except for: Phyton-27, Compass and Heritage.

Rates, re-entry intervals, etc. can be found in Griffin's Insecticide and Fungicide Options for 2007 bulletin.

¹ University of Massachusetts web site:
http://www.umass.edu/umext/floriculture/fact_sheets/pest_management/rust_oramentals.htm