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ENTYLOMA LEAF SPOT OF ENGLISH MARIGOLD

By R. F. DOEPEL, B.Sc. (Agric.), Plant Pathologist

THE English Marigold or Calendula is a hardy ornamental which is widely grown in gardens throughout Western Australia. In recent years a serious fungal disease known as entyloma leaf spot has become established in home plantings.

Entyloma leaf spot, caused by the fungus *Entyloma calendulae*, was first recorded in 1951 from a number of localities, including Perth, Forrestfield and Bindoon.

SYMPTOMS

Affected leaves develop pale yellow spots which increase in size up to one quarter of an inch in diameter. Such spots later become dark grey as the disease progresses on the plant. The older leaves are the first to be attacked and during wet weather, which favours the disease, are often completely destroyed. As the season progresses, infection spreads to the younger leaves and the plants become very ragged in appearance and produce inferior blooms. With the advent of warm weather, however, good recovery may be made.
CONTROL

(1) Adopt a rotation so that marigolds are grown in different sites in the garden each year.

(2) As soon as the disease is noticed apply a copper-containing spray and repeat at weekly intervals if found necessary. Either Bordeaux mixture or copper oxychloride sprays can be used. The copper oxychloride sprays are more convenient to prepare and are often preferred in the home garden. They are marketed under various trade names and should be used at strengths indicated by the makers.

(3) At the end of the season all diseased plants and fallen leaves should be collected from the garden and burned.

HINTS ON USING CHAIN SAWs

A clean chain saw will cut faster and stay sharp longer, according to the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture’s agricultural engineer J. G. Drever.

He recommends that the chain be washed in kerosene and scrubbed periodically with a wire brush. It should never be allowed to get gummed up with tree sap, rubbish and dirt.

Putting a little grease in the bar groove each day will reduce wear on the chain and bar.

Saw-sharpening files should be wrapped in waxed paper, as they will work better and faster if kept clean and free from rust.

It is important to keep the air filter and muffler spark screen clean for full cutting power.

Slowing the engine to idling speed before switching off the ignition help prevent engine flooding and spark plug fouling.

When installing a new chain it is advisable to fit a new sprocket at the same time.

For safety, it is important to remember that when a chain saw is being used it may be impossible to hear when a tree is falling or a log is rolling.

Correct chain tension is important when cutting. A common recommendation is $\frac{1}{8}$ in. clearance between chain tang and guide rail.

In response to a request from the Commonwealth Forestry and Timber Bureau the Australian Tractor Testing Station is to assist with a scheme for testing chain saws.

Under the scheme the Forestry Bureau will conduct field trials under practical bush working conditions as well as formal tests of sawing rates with standard size logs in the laboratory.

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