Late Season Insect, Mite, and Disease Control Options on Poinsettias with Bracts
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Read and follow all pesticide label directions!! – All of the chemical information contained in this bulletin is believed to be correct, not responsible for typographical errors. Pesticide labels change often. Always read and follow the label. Most of these products contain resistance management requirements on their labels. Products other than those listed may be legal and effective. Not all pesticides are labeled in all states.

CapSil caution- To avoid over applying this on poinsettia bracts, use one time in a 7-day period. If you need to spray more often than 7 days leave the CapSil out of subsequent treatments. Capsil rates should be at half rates, 4 oz per 100 gal or 1/4 tsp per gal during bract development.

INSECTS

Mites –

Lewis mites (Eotetranychus lewisi) and spider mites (Tetranychus urticae) have become more frequent pests on poinsettias in recent years. The first signs are generally a lack of good green leaf color, progressing to the classic bronzing symptoms that mites cause as they feed on the bottom side of the leaves. Webbing may also be present with heavy mite populations.

Spray Options: Lewis Mites - Avid, Sirocco
Spider Mites - Avid, Floramite, Sirocco

Whiteflies -

Due to the high probability that whiteflies will become problematic for poinsettia crops at some point during production, GGSPro encourages rigorous scouting beginning with the arrival of the cuttings. Prompt action will be required once whiteflies are detected due to their ability to reproduce rapidly on this crop.

Spray Options: Flagship, Judo, Kontos, Sanmite, Safari, Tristar, XXPire
Drench Options: Flagship, Safari
Fungus Gnats –

Once the bracts are present, control of fungus gnats become more difficult because pesticide options on colored bracts are limited. We are also faced with the obstacle of full poinsettia canopies preventing good contact with the soil. Control of fungus gnats is primarily directed towards the larval stages.

**Drench Options:** Flagship, Safari, Nematodes

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**DISEASES**

**Botrytis**

Optimizing the growing environment is still one of the best methods to limit *Botrytis* in your greenhouse. When cooling your greenhouses as the poinsettias mature, avoid night temperatures below 60°F. Ventilate as much as possible during the day and water when foliage will be dry before night. Exotherm Termil is labeled for poinsettia foliage only and has caused severe damage to mature bracts of certain cultivars.

**Spray Options:** Affirm, Cease*, Pageant Intrinsic, Palladium (*preventative only.)*

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**Powdery Mildew**-

Active colonies require applications at 5-7 day intervals until symptoms disappear unless otherwise noted. This will require multiple products as many restrict how often they can be applied. Both upper and lower leaf surfaces should be treated if possible.

**Spray Options:** Affirm, Eagle, Heritage*, Pageant Intrinsic* (*preventative only.*)
**Root and Stem Rots**

Reducing the amount of soluble salts and nitrogen in the soil during the last month of production is believed to help reduce the incidence of certain root rots. Constant moisture is better than repeated dry/wet intervals. *Botrytis* can cause a tan colored stem canker that can be confused with *Rhizoctonia*. *Botrytis* control options are listed elsewhere in this bulletin. *Pythium* and *Phytophthora* can cause stem cankers as well as root rots.

All treatments listed below are soil drenches unless otherwise noted. Avoid applying over bracts, rinse excess off if this does occur. Banrot, Truban and Terrazole are not recommended by GGSPro after Nov. 1st.

**Pythium and Phytophthora**

**Pythium Drench Options:** Fenstop, Hurricane, Segway, Subdue Maxx

**Rhizoctonia Drench Options:** Affirm, Cleary’s 3336, Hurricane, Medallion