

# 2022 Insect and Disease Management Recommendations

Each year, Dr. Mary Hausbeck and Dr. Dave Smitley release updated insecticide, miticide, and fungicide recommendations. Check out this year's recommendations for greenhouse ornamentals.

#### Michigan State University

Extension has updated their insect and disease management recommendations for the 2022 greenhouse season. The pesticides are evaluated by a network of researchers involved in the IR-4 Project, a research group that facilitates the labeling of pesticides on specialty crops, including greenhouse crops.

These recommendations are updated yearly to reflect efficacy of pesticides as MSU Extension specialists and their nationwide colleagues perform research trials evaluating the products against common greenhouse insects, mites or diseases (Photo 1).



**Photo 1.** Researchers perform fungicide efficacy trials on greenhouse crops such as these snapdragons in order to provide the best recommendations for growers. Photo credit: MSU Veggie & Greenhouse Ornamental Pathology Facebook Page.

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For example, at Michigan State University it is Dr. Mary Hausbeck's lab who completes the efficacy trials of fungicides on greenhouse ornamentals. These recommendations are for Michigan, so please check that all are labeled for use in your state or country.





How do researchers screen for fungicide efficacy? It may not be poinsettia season, but the process is the same for spring ornamentals. First, plant material is obtained from commercial growers to perform these trials (Photo 2). Plants are then treated with different fungicides while some are left untreated as controls. The plants are then inoculated with the pathogen-of-interest, in this case Botrytis on poinsettia. The plants are then bagged in order to increase the relative humidity around the plant, thereby making the environmental conditions for disease development optimal (Photo 3). The plants with different fungicide treatments and those of the control are then evaluated for disease severity and a mean disease score is determined (Photo 4). Researchers then analyze the data using statistics in order to determine if the disease severity was different between the treatments applied.

## Disease management for 2022

Using these methods and the shared results among collaborating researchers, MSU Extension plant pathologist <u>Mary</u> <u>Hausbeck</u> has released her new "2022 <u>Greenhouse Disease Management</u>" recommendations (Photo 5). The products are classified on a range from "A+" or "B/B-" team products. The "A" team products provide the best control for the diseases, and "B" team products are those that provide limited control and are good to include in a spray rotation.

Hausbeck has also provided an updated "2022 Greenhouse Impatiens Downy <u>Mildew Program</u>" for both susceptible and impatiens downy mildew-resistant cultivars.

Hausbeck and her colleagues have also developed a <u>guide for disease</u> <u>management specifically for vegetable</u> <u>and herb crops</u> (Photo 6).



**Photo 2.** Finished plant material is obtained from a commercial grower for fungicide efficacy trials. Photo: Nikki Lukasko.



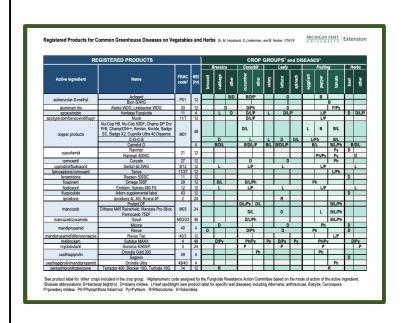
**Photo 3.** After the plants are inoculated with the pathogen, then are bagged in order to increase the relative humidity and to develop optimal environmental conditions for pathogen infection. Photo: Nikki Lukasko.



**Photo 4.** The plants are then evaluated for the severity of disease; Here, a poinsettia bract with Botrytis infection. Photo: Nikki Lukasko.



Photo 5. The 2022 disease management recommendations are available for PDF download on the Michigan State University Extension website. Photo: Heidi Lindberg



**Photo 6.** The disease management recommendations for vegetable transplants and herbs are available for download on the veggies.msu.edu website. Photo: Heidi Lindberg

The disease management guide for vegetable transplants and herb crops provides the following information about each registered product: 1) active ingredient, 2) trade name of the product, 3) FRAC code (a guide for alternating products to delay/reduce pathogen resistance) and 4) re-entry interval. The disease recommendations are grouped by crop groups: 1) brassica, 2) cucurbit, 3) leafy, 4) fruiting and 5) herbs. Within each crop grouping, the table includes the target pathogen including: bacterial blight, downy mildew, leaf spot, powdery mildew, Phytophthora, Rhizoctonia and Sclerotinia.

## Changes from 2021

The disease management recommendations are very similar between 2021 and 2022.

For the 2022 growing season, the recommendations for Thielaviopsis include only the "A" team - or very effective products - due to the seriousness of the pathogen. The two "A" team fungicides for Thielaviopsis are the high labeled rates of *3336/OHP 6672* and *Terraguard SC*.

While most fungicides classified as the "A" Team for Botrytis are the same as last year, *Pageant Intrinsic* has been moved to the "B" team (only recommended under low disease pressure). Due to increased fungicide resistance frequencies, the following products were removed from the "B" team and are no longer recommended for Botrytis control: *Heritage*, *Compass*, and *Insignia*.

Metconazole (*Tourney*) has been dropped entirely from the recommendations because the label states that the product is for outdoor use on ornamentals but does not mention greenhouse applications. In recent trials, that fungicide also had significant PGR effects on some plant species.

#### Insect management

MSU Extension entomology specialist for ornamentals, <u>David Smitley</u> has released his "2022 Greenhouse Pest Management with Insecticides" recommendations (Photo 7). These are the recommended products to control thrips, aphids, whiteflies, spider mites, broad and cyclamen mites, fungus gnats, mealybugs and Florida fern caterpillar.

Growers of greenhouse vegetables and greens can use the guide, "<u>Recommended</u> <u>Insecticides for Common Greenhouse Pests</u> <u>on Vegetables, Herbs and Leafy Greens</u>," when considering an insecticide application. The guide provides the names of the products, active ingredients, vegetable crops on the label and recommended pests they control. For more information on the guide, see the MSU Extension article, "<u>Insecticides</u> for common pests on greenhouse vegetables and transplants."

#### Notes on insecticides for 2022

There have been a few new products registered and released within the last three years:

*Novato* (clofentazine) has been added for spider mite control. This is the same active ingredient that was in Apollo. It works very well if resistance is not a problem. Because it is not used in the greenhouse industry much anymore, resistance may not be as much of a problem as it was in the past, and it is certainly worth trying.

*Ventigra* (afidopyropen) is now labeled for control of aphids, whiteflies and mealybugs. Plants sensitive to Ventigra include coleus, poinsettia (in bract), impatiens and petunias (in flower).

*Sarisa* (cyclaniliprole) is now labeled for control of thrips, whiteflies and mealybugs. In recent research tests at Michigan State University we found Sarisa to reduce the number of thrips on marigolds as well as the most recent industry standard for thrips control, Pylon.

*Pradia* (cyclaniliprole and flonicamid) is a combination product, so it is like using Sarisa and Aria together. In research tests at MSU, Pradia also reduced the number of thrips on marigolds as well as Pylon, but it appeared to last a week or two longer than Sarisa. More testing of both products is needed.

In recent trials at Michigan State University, the Smitley lab found that *Sarisa* and *Pradia* reduced the number of thrips on marigolds as well as the most recent industry standard for thrips control, **Pylon**. Thrips control from Pradia appeared to last a week or two longer than that for Sarisa. *Pradia* (cyclaniliprole and flonicamid) is a combination product, so it is like using *Sarisa* and *Aria* together. More testing of both products is needed.

For summaries of research evaluations of insecticides used for thrips on ornamentals, go to the <u>IR4 Ornamental</u> Horticulture website.



**Photo 7.** The insect management recommendations are available for download as a PDF on the MSU Extension website. Photo: Heidi Lindberg

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