



**Greenhouse Pest Message, April 3, 2023**  
**Leanne Pundt, UConn Extension**

**Bacterial Fasciation or Leafy Gall on Scented Geraniums**



Leafy galls caused by the bacterium *Rhodococcus fascians* may slowly develop on scented geraniums. Look for the proliferation of small leaves at their base. It is most commonly spread by propagating infected plant material.

There is no control for this disease once a plant is infected. This pathogen can be present for a long time without causing any symptoms.

Leafy Gall (*Rhodococcus fascians*) on Geranium, Wallflower and Coreopsis  
<https://www.e-gro.org/pdf/324.pdf>

Scented Geraniums: Proliferation of Basil Growth  
[https://www.e-gro.org/pdf/2015\\_437.pdf](https://www.e-gro.org/pdf/2015_437.pdf)

With the upcoming cloudy weather forecasted this week and crowded greenhouses, keep up your preventive measures against **Botrytis blight**. As you know, Botrytis is best managed by a combination of cultural, environmental, and chemical controls paying close attention to proper sanitation, spacing and management of humidity levels.

Water in the morning so foliage can dry rapidly. Keep calcium levels adequate.

Look for leaf spots, blight, and stem cankers especially in the lower plant canopy on Botrytis prone crops.



Figures 1 & 2: Botrytis sporulation. Photos by L. Pundt

These are some of the fungicides that are generally considered effective against Botrytis blight:

- Daconil Weather Stik (MO5)
- Decree (17) – some resistance populations have been reported in the NE
- Affirm WDG (19)
- Astun SC (7)
- Broadform SC (7/11)
- Orkestra Intrinsic (11/7)
- Pageant Intrinsic (11/7)
- Palladium (9/12)
- Mural (11/7)
- Medallion/ Spirato GHN (12) (do not use on geraniums).

Be sure to alternate among products with different modes of action or FRAC codes. Preventive use of biological fungicides may also be helpful rotational partners.

Scouting and Treatment of Gray Mold in Greenhouse Crops

<https://www.e-gro.org/pdf/2021-10-21.pdf>

More options are listed in the New England Greenhouse Guide available online at: <https://greenhouseguide.cahnr.uconn.edu/>

To order a paper copy of the New England Greenhouse Floriculture Guide:

<https://www.lulu.com/shop/cheryl-smith-and-rosa-raudales-and-leanne-pundt/new-england-greenhouse-floriculture-guide/paperback/product-8wjeyk.html?page=1&pageSize=4>

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