

Greenhouse Pest Message, October 14, 2024
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Be on the lookout for rose leaf spots this fall.

Roses are a popular crop for many operations. They are easy to grow and produce beautiful flowers coveted in gardens. One of the major challenges in rose production are leaf spots. The most common is black spot (*Diplocarpon rosae*). Cercospora leaf spot (*Cercospora rosicola*) can also cause damage, especially to the Knock Out rose series. *Diplocarpon rosae* forms black spots that usually have a yellow halo on the foliage of most common rose cultivars. The spots are full of fruiting structures of the fungus (pycnidia) and spores that spread readily with splashing water. Knock Out roses are less susceptible to this pathogen. Cultural controls such as plant orientation to improve air flow and avoiding overhead irrigation where possible will help to reduce leaf wetness. *Cercospora* also spreads by splashing water, but unlike black spot usually will not defoliate the plant. This pathogen is slow growing and produces small necrotic spots on susceptible varieties. It is not a problem every year. Photo 1 and 2 below show typical black spot lesions at a late and early stage, photo 3 is of Cercospora leaf spot.



Photos by P. Bachi and C. Krasnow

Maintaining a spray program on roses is important, even when the plants are not in full flower. Although these leaf spots are mostly cosmetic and do not appear to reduce flowering, they can make the plant more susceptible to stem canker. Additionally, even minor leaf spot damage can reduce the value of roses. Listed below are recommended fungicides. Rotation of fungicide classes is important. As demonstrated in Florida, rotation of fungicide classes provides improved control over singly applied compounds on a repeat calendar program. The trial below was from Dr. Fulya-Gurel in Tennessee. Under high natural disease pressure, Broadform was the most effective fungicide tested.

Black spot Control

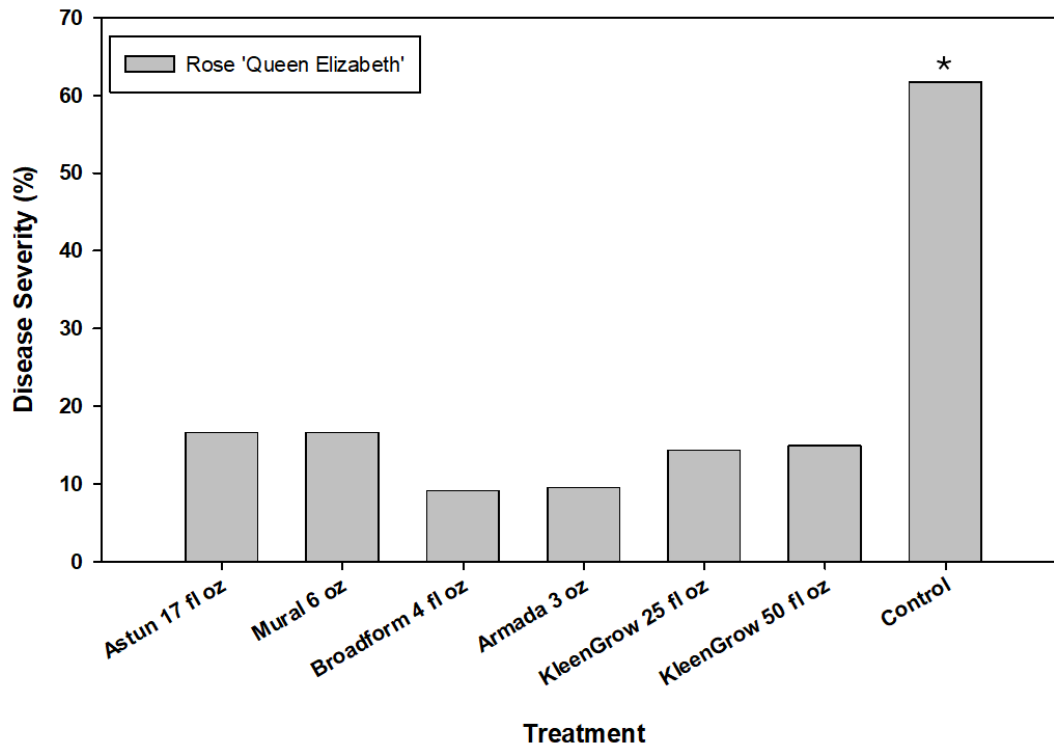


Table 1: List of effective fungicides against Rose black spot

Product	Active ingredient	FRAC code
Mural	Azoxystrobin+Benzovindiflupyr	11/7
Switch 62.5WG	Cyprodinil+Fludioxonil	9/12
Empress	Pyraclostrobin	11
Postiva	Pydiflumetofen+Difenoconazole	3/7
Pageant Intrinsic	Pyraclostrobin/boscalid	11/7
Heritage	Azoxystrobin	11
Daconil**	Chlorothalonil	M5
Broadform	Fluopyram/Trifloxystrobin	11/7
Orkestra	Pyraclostrobin/fluxapyroxad	11/7
Compass O	Trifloxystrobin	11

** Knock Out roses can be sensitive to Daconil under certain conditions

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