# DOWNY MILDEW *Control Strategies*

***Background:***
Downy Mildews belong to the family Peronosporaceae. The most commonly affected ornamentals are Impatiens, Sunflowers, and the Curcurbit Vegetables. Fruit loss from Downy Mildew is most likely related to soft rots that occur after leaves die and then sunburn occurs on the fruit. Plants affected may be stunted or have leaf loss.

***Symptoms:***
Symptoms can appear a couple of ways. One way consists of yellow-brown mottling visible on the upper side of the leaves. As the mottling spots age, they rapidly expand and turn brown. It may appear to be chlorosis at first. The other way symptoms can appear is by having white, cotton looking growth on the underside of leaves. This is how Downy Mildew gets its name. In disease favorable conditions it will spread rapidly, destroying leaves without affecting stems.

***Favorable Development Conditions/Disease Cycle:***
It depends on the species but some like it when it is hot and humid with moisture and others like it when it is cool and humid with moisture. When the fungus is present from a previous growing season it can overwinter on plant parts. Then when the spores come in contact with any free water on the leaf surface and the conditions are favorable, it can spread and promote spore germination. The disease cycle, depending on species, from beginning to additional spore production usually lasts from seven to ten days but under hot and humid conditions that cycle can be as short as four days.

***Cultural Control:***
One way to control Downy Mildew is to eliminate moisture and humidity around the affected plants. One way to do that is to water below the leaves with a drip system. Another way is to improve air circulation through selective pruning of plant tissue. Inside a greenhouse, reducing the humidity will help as well.

***Chemical Control:***
A number of fungicides can be applied as a preventative for Downy Mildew.

*Always read and follow label directions before applying any pesticide and follow state and local regulations*

*See back for more information...*

**For more information or to place an order**

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# BFG Recommends

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**Segovis** 16oz SYN58199

(Oxathiapiprolin) Group 49. Warning. 4hr REI. Rate: 0.6-2.4oz/100gal. Contact and Systemic. Labeled for use in the greenhouse and nursery. Control may be enhanced with the addition of an adjuvant.

**Protect DF** 6lb NTS10506660

(Mancozeb) Group M03. Caution. 24hr REI. Rate: 1-2lbs/100gal. Contact. Labeled for use in the greenhouse and nursery, including some vegetables. Control may be enhanced with the addition of an adjuvant. Do not use on Marigolds.

**Segway O** 16oz OHP987200

(Cyazofamid) Group 21. Caution. 12hr REI. Rate: 2.1-3.5oz/100gal. Contact, Limited Systemic. Labeled for use in the greenhouse and nursery.


**Pageant Intrinsic** 1lb BAS59012349 12lb BAS59012429

(Boscalid, Pyraclostrobin) Group 7,11. Caution. 12hr REI. Rate: 12-18oz/100gal. Contact. Labeled for use in the greenhouse and nursery as well as tomatoes.


**Cease** 1gal BW300100 2.5gal BW1C19A24

(Bacillus subtilis) Group 44. Caution. 4hr REI. Rate: 2-8qts/100gal. Contact. Labeled for use in the greenhouse and nursery as well as vegetables.

**Fenstop** 32oz BYR84983705

(Fenamidone) Group 11. Caution. 12hr REI. Rate: 7-14oz/100gal. Contact. Labeled for use in the greenhouse but only certain ornamentals are on the label, check label prior to use. Should trial for phytotoxicity on plants not on label prior to use.


**Adorn** 32oz VAL61510.928

(Fluopicolide) Group 43. Caution. 12hr REI. Rate: 1-4oz/100gal. Locally Systemic, Translaminar. Labeled for use in the greenhouse and nursery. Should trial for phytotoxicity on plants not on label prior to use. Adorn must be tank mixed with another product labeled for Downy Mildew for resistance management.


**Camelot O** 1gal SEPRO19-0452A

(Copper Octanoate) Group M01. Caution. 4hr REI. Rate: 0.5-2.0gal/100gal. Contact. Labeled for use in the greenhouse and nursery as well as on vegetables and herbs. Control may be enhanced with the addition of an adjuvant.