

Powdery Mildew

Powdery Mildew is a term that describes an entire group of fungi. It ususally begins with small, white or gray spots that will eventually spread from the entire leaf top to the underneath, stems, and any fruit or flowers. Powdery Mildew disrupts photosynthesis, cause the plant to grow slowly, lose foilage, and cause improper formation of flowers and fruits.



Powdery Mildew on Dogwood Leaves

Symptoms

Small, white or gray spots that can be rubbed off with a finger, that will eventually spread to the rest of the plant. Unlike most fungi, Powdery Mildew prefers a dry surface, moderate temperatures, and high humidity for formation. Common causes are crowded plants causing poor air circulation, cool humid conditions, as well as over fertilization.

Treatment

The method for treating Powdery Mildew is a foliar spray. In some cases pruning may be necessary to help prevent stagnant areas around the plant.