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Chemical Pest Control Information for Home Fruit Production

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CHEMICAL PEST CONTROL INFORMATION FOR HOME FRUIT PRODUCTION

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Growing fruits in the home orchard or garden can be an interesting and satisfying hobby as well as an abundant source of appetizing and nutritious food for the home gardener. Tree fruits as well as small fruits require considerable care. They differ considerably in the amount of care required because of the severity of disease and insect attacks as well as competition from weeds and the length of time from bloom to harvest of the many fruit varieties. As a rule of thumb, the flowers and fruit of most fruit varieties must be protected from diseases and insects by protective sprays from pre-early-blossom time until harvest. Therefore, home gardeners who are not willing to contribute considerable time to their home fruit planting will no doubt be disappointed in their harvests. It could be said that those home owners who are unwilling to devote a considerable amount of their free time, on a regularly scheduled weekly basis, could and probably should select a less routine hobby with more positive results. Generally speaking, there are no short-cuts to quality fruit production.

To produce clean, wholesome, attractive, nutritious fruit requires the use of protective pesticides at the correct time and applied according to the manufacturers instructions on the label. The number of protective sprays required per season will vary with the fruit in question and the degree of disease and insect blemishes the grower can tolerate. For example, it requires a greater number of protective sprays to grow a clean crop of apples or peaches than it does a crop of blackberries or strawberries. Similarly, if a home grower is not interested in producing the so-called picture-book blemish-free fruit, but can stand a few disease or insect scars on the fruit surface, the number of protective sprays can be reduced by approximately one-fourth. The spray schedules or time of protective spray applications in this publication are designed to assist the home fruit gardener in producing fruit for home use, not necessarily of market quality or perfection. Thus, the number of suitable protective pesticides as well as the suggested number of applications have been reduced to a minimum.

Various protective pesticide manufacturers have one-package, general-purpose fungicide and insecticide mixtures on the market that are prepared for home fruit growers. If these mixtures are used in accordance with the recommendations on the label, they should provide satisfactory control of the pest for which they are recommended. For any protectant pesticide to be effective it must be applied thoroughly, covering all leaves and fruit; and at the correct time, since protectants are based on prevention of disease and insect damage rather than a curative effect.

PRECAUTIONS

Generally, most pesticides are toxic or poisonous in one way or another to animals and/or some plants. For the most part, however, pesticides for homeowner use (for safety purposes) are selected from the least toxic of available ones. Nevertheless, they should be kept in a locked container or kept out of reach of children and animals. Be safe, do not take pesticides lightly. Never breathe pesticide dust. Wear a pair of rubber gloves and goggles when working with pesticides. Do not smoke or eat while using pesticides. Destroy pesticide containers as described on the container label. Always change clothes and wash with soap and water immediately after working with pesticides. Launder your clothes before they are worn again.

Do not use 2,4-D weed killing mixtures or other herbicides in the spray tank used to spray fruit, flowers, vegetables, or lawns. As a rule, herbicides cannot be satisfactorily removed from the spray tank; hence, you may cause injury to your most cherished plants. Use herbicides in sprayers kept for that purpose only.

GENERAL PURPOSE SPRAY MIXTURES

A general purpose spray mixture that is usually effective for protection against most diseases and insects that attack home fruit contains captan, methoxychlor, and malathion. These three chemicals can be purchased individually and mixed at the rates shown in Table 1 or they can be purchased already mixed from most garden supply stores. Other protectant pesticides such as sulfur, zineb, Kelthane, Diazinon, benomyl (Benlate), Carbaryl (Sevin), and ferbam (Fermate) are used for special purposes and may be applied separately or they may be added to the general purpose mixture (GPM) Table 1 (see limitations on special purpose pesticides, footnotes Table 1).

Table 1. Recommended Protectant Pesticides

Pesticide	Amount of pesticide to use in different gallons of water				
	1 gallon	5 gallons	10 gallons	25 gallons	50 gallons
<u>GENERAL PURPOSE MIXTURE (GPM)</u>					
Captan 50% Wettable Powder	2.0 Tbs ^{1/}	1.6 oz	3.2 oz	0.5 lb	1.0 lb
Malathion 25% Wettable Powder	3.0 Tbs	2.4 oz	4.8 oz	12.0 oz	1.5 lb
Methoxychlor 50% Wettable Powder	2.0 Tbs	1.6 oz	3.2 oz	8.0 oz	1.0 lb
<u>SPECIAL PURPOSE PESTICIDES (SPP)</u>					
Ferbam 76% Wettable Powder ^{2/}	1.5 Tbs	1.2 oz	2.4 oz	6.0 oz	12.0 oz
Sevin 50% Wettable Powder ^{3/}	2.0 Tbs	1.6 oz	3.2 oz	8.0 oz	1.0 lb
Benlate 50% Wettable Powder ^{4/}	2.0 Tsp	10.0 Tsp	6.5 Tbs	1.5 oz	3.0 oz
Sulfur 95% Wettable Powder ^{5/}	1.0 Tbs	5.0 Tbs	1.6 oz	4.0 oz	8.0 oz
Kelthane 35% Wettable Powder ^{6/}	1.0 Tbs	5.0 Tbs	1.6 oz	4.0 oz	8.0 oz
Phaltan 50% Wettable Powder ^{7/}	2.0 Tbs	1.6 oz	3.2 oz	8.0 oz	1.0 lb
Dikar 76% Wettable Powder ^{8/}	2.0 Tbs	10.0 Tbs	3.2 oz	8.0 oz	1.0 lb

^{1/}A teaspoonful (Tsp) or a tablespoonful (Tbs) in this publication refers to a level standard measuring teaspoon or tablespoon.

^{2/}Ferbam is exceptionally good for black rot of grapes, it should be added to the general purpose mixture for cedar and Quince rust control of apple (early pink to June 10), ferbam should be used on peaches and nectarines during the dormant stage (November or early March) for peach leaf curl control.

^{3/}Sevin can be substituted for methoxychlor beginning in early June if Japanese beetles become a problem. Do not use before this period since it will thin some varieties of apples if used before.

^{4/}Benlate can be added to the GPM on all stone fruit 3 and 1 week before harvest for beginning brown rot control.

^{5/}Sulfur can be added to the GPM for powdery mildew control on apple.

^{6/}If mites become a problem on peaches or apples, use two sprays of Kelthane at 7 day intervals.

^{7/}Phaltan should be substituted for captan in the GPM beginning during early July for sooty blotch, fly speck, and rot control on apples. Phaltan should also be substituted for captan GPM for downy and powdery mildew control on grapes.

^{8/}Dikar can be substituted for captan in the GPM for all apple diseases.

SPRAY MATERIALS

The following spray materials may be obtained from a farm supply or a fungicide-insecticide dealer. When unable to find the needed chemicals, write or phone your county Extension agent for information on the nearest source of supply.

Fungicides

CAPTAN is a 50% wettable powder fungicide used to control apple scab, peach brown rot, and other fungus diseases of orchard fruit and brambles. Captan is not effective against powdery mildew.

BENOMYL (Benlate) is a 50% wettable powder fungicide which may be used for control of several fungous diseases of stone fruits (peaches, etc.), apple, pear, and strawberry. Benlate is also effective against powdery mildews on fruit crops and ornamentals; it may be used alone or in combination with other fungicides.

DIKAR is a 76% wettable powder fungicide used to control apple scab, powdery mildew, apple rust, apple rots, and fly speck and sooty blotch of apples. Dikar will also suppress red mites when used in several consecutive sprays.

FERBAM (fermate, Coromate, Niagara Carbamate and others) is effective against apple rust, black rot of grape, leaf spots of fruit crops, and peach leaf curl.

FOLPET (Phaltan) is a 50% wettable powder. This fungicide is effective against apple scab and rots. Also, folpet is used to control diseases on sour cherry, grape, raspberry, and strawberry.

WETTABLE SULFUR is a fungicide which is used for the control of apple scab, peach brown rot, powdery mildew, and other diseases. It is a finely-ground powder to which a small amount of wetting agent has been added. Do not use in high temperatures.

Insecticides-Miticides

DORMANT SPRAY OIL diluted with water, is effective against scale insects and red mite eggs. It should be used only on dormant trees.

ENDOSULFAN (Thiodan) is a 50% wettable powder insecticide used to control peach tree borers. It is an organic phosphate that is highly toxic (use only with extreme caution). Do not use within 30 days of harvest.

KELTHANE is a 35% wettable powder used to control European red mite and spider mites which blanch the foliage of all fruit crops.

MALATHION, phosphate compound, is used to control aphids, mites, and scale insects in the crawler stage. A 25% wettable powder is suggested for fruit trees. Malathion does not persist long.

METHOXYCHLOR is used to control codling moth, oriental fruit moth, curculio, and Japanese beetle. A 50% wettable powder is recommended for fruit trees, grapes, etc.

CARBARYL (Sevin), 50% wettable powder is recommended for control of Japanese beetle and apple maggot. Add to general purpose spray or use separately as necessary about June 15 for Japanese beetle. Add to general purpose spray beginning June 1 and continue at 10-14 day intervals for remainder of season for apple maggot control.

WHEN AND HOW TO APPLY HOME FRUIT PESTICIDES

Timing: Proper timing and thorough application of pesticide sprays are essential for quality fruit production. Make certain that the spray reaches all parts of the tree or, if small fruit, all of the foliage and fruit. If coverage is not uniform, it may be necessary to adjust or change the parts (disk) of the sprayer nozzle.

It is difficult to determine the exact time or date to start the protective spray, since there are usually several kinds and also varieties within a home fruit planting. A simple general rule, however, will usually take care of most home fruit plantings. Start the protectant pesticide spray program when the young foliage is approximately one-fourth inch long on the earliest variety to break-bud in the spring and spray all varieties at the same time. Generally speaking, it is much easier to follow this procedure than it is to attempt to spray each variety according to its stage of growth. One will have to apply sprays during the full blossom stage of some varieties. This spray usually will not interfere with pollination because the fungicides used at this time are not toxic to bees.

How much spray per tree: There is no accurate measure of how much spray to apply per tree. Professional scientists have debated the subject for the past five decades with no logical agreement. There are too many variables in the type of sprayers that are available, the wet-ability of the leaves and fruit of the different species of fruit, the amount of wetting agent (surfactant) contained in the different pesticides and the extreme variability of the environment (wind blowing, dry, hot, wet, cool, etc. each of which influences wetting the foliage) when the protectant pesticide is being applied. A general rule of

thumb for home gardeners or fruit growers to follow, however, is to spray the foliage and fruits until droplets form and begin to run or drip off. For the beginner and for an idea only; the amount of pesticide suggested for coverage of different size trees (Table 2) will be helpful and may even apply to a certain set of conditions as previously described.

Table 2. How much spray per tree with different dimensions

Height in feet	Spread in feet	Gallons per ^{1/} Application
5-8	3-6	1
8-10	4-8	1-2
10-15	8-15	4-5
15-20	15-25	8-10
20-25	25-30	11-14
25-30	30-35	15-18

^{1/} As indicated in the text, these figures of gallons are only for ideas. The environment at the time of spraying as well as how the tree is pruned will all influence the amount of spray that will properly cover a tree.

Pruning: Spray coverage can be improved through good pruning practices. Trees should be "opened up" to allow spray and sunlight penetration. Prune out all dead and decaying branches, because such wood may harbor insects and diseases. Keep the height of the trees low to enable good spray coverage.

Thinning: It is important to thin fruit properly to provide good disease and insect control. Thin all tree fruits so that the mature fruits will not touch each other. Protectant pesticides cannot effectively cover fruit that touch each other; hence, this provides a place for insects and diseases to build up.

Tree size: It is almost impossible to produce high quality fruit in the home orchard on old, large trees because spray pressure is inadequate to force the pesticides to the top of such trees. Therefore, old trees should be replaced with dwarf or semi-dwarf trees that are allowed to obtain a height of no more than 12-15 feet.

SPRAYERS

There are a variety of sprayers and dusters that are available to the home fruit grower. Generally, however, the dusters are not satisfactory for protectant pesticide application to home fruit trees. Therefore, the home fruit grower is limited to a wide choice of hand or small power sprayers to protect his fruit crops. There is no one sprayer that is equally applicable to all home fruit spray problems. Therefore, the grower himself will have to make the decision on what type of a sprayer to purchase for his particular planting.

If one has only a few trees (5 to 8) along with a few strawberries and brambles, it probably would pay him to buy a hand sprayer of the compressed air type. One type of hand sprayer is where the compressed air tank is pumped-up before one starts to spray. This type of sprayer is relatively poor because one has an uneven air pressure (the air pressure is what forces the liquid out of the sprayer and causes it to be changed to the droplet phase) at different times of applying the protectant pesticide. Another type of hand sprayer is the knapsack which is hand pumped as the operator moves along. This type has the advantage in that the pressure in the tank remains relatively constant as the spray is being applied. The overall use of the hand sprayers can be extended somewhat by removing the short brass tube where the nozzle is attached, and replacing it with a four to six foot piece of copper tubing that one can buy at a hardware store. Have the copper tubing threaded with the same size threads as the brass tube so that the nozzle will fit properly. This inexpensive alteration of the hand sprayer will facilitate coverage of trees up to 12' in height.

For the home fruit growers who have 25 to 50 tree fruits, as well as possibly home lawns and gardens to spray, they would probably do well to purchase a small power-driven sprayer. These sprayers are distributed by various dealers and they come in tank capacities of 15 to 50 gallons and pumps that will deliver from 50 to 350 pounds pressure per square inch. Therefore, start about three months before you plan to buy one of these sprayers and read all the information that you can obtain on the different types. Check with your nearest pesticide dealer, farm machinery distributors, large department stores, county extension staff and, last but not least, an Extension specialist at your land grant university who has the responsibility of protecting plants from their many pests. After the correct size has been decided on, it would probably be more satisfactory to purchase a standard brand that you can obtain parts for or have repaired when it breaks down.

Tips on sprayer maintenance: Some pesticides are corrosive to metals; therefore, a sprayer must be properly cleaned after each use. For best results with any sprayer, study the owners manual and follow instructions carefully. At the end of the day or treatment, thoroughly wash the nozzle(s), hose pipes, and both inside and outside of the sprayer. Never wash a sprayer where the water will puddle or stand where children or pets will play in it. Caution: never store a sprayer where small children can play with it. There may be enough of the pesticide toxicant left on the sprayer, if a child rubs its hands over the sprayer then puts them in its mouth, to cause serious illness or even to be fatal.

Garden hose sprayers: There are several types and models of the garden hose type sprayer. They attach to a garden hose and the pressure is derived from the water system rather than from a hand or motor pump. None of the types or models that we have worked with perform a perfect spray job, but perhaps for an older or elderly person who is unable to lift a 3-4 gallon sprayer, the garden or proportioner sprayer would be satisfactory. When purchasing, be sure that the sprayer is designed to use wetttable powders. Since wetttable powders do not dissolve in water, but remain in suspension, be sure that the screen over the end of the suction hose is not so fine that it will become clogged with pesticide particles. Read and follow the manufacturers instructions.

APPLE DISEASES

APPLE SCAB, a fungus disease of apples, is found in all countries where apples are grown. This disease causes almost as much loss to apple growers as all the rest of the apple diseases put together. The scab fungus attacks leaves, stems, and fruit. The apple scab fungus, which is called Venturia inaequalis, overwinters in the dead apple leaves under the trees. During the winter months the fungus forms small, black, flask-like structures in the leaves called perithecia. The mature perithecia are filled with minute spores called ascospores. Spring rains cause the perithecia to discharge ascospores into the air where they are carried by the air current to the new green leaves and opening fruit buds of the apple tree. The first visible sign of infection is a light brown or olive colored spot. Depending on the temperature, first visible symptoms may show as soon as 8 days after the initial penetration by the ascospore. Hundreds of new spores called conidia or summer spores are formed in the infection lesion. Rain disperses the conidia or summer spores from the infection lesion to healthy leaves and to the young developing fruit, where they start a secondary infection. Thus, the fruit and foliage must be protected from green-tip until harvest with protectant fungicides.

POWDERY MILDEW is a disease of major importance on several apple varieties grown in Virginia. The disease is caused by the fungus Podosphaera leucotricha. Jonathan, Rome, and Stayman have been the most seriously affected; York and Delicious have been less severely attacked. The powdery mildew fungus attacks twigs, leaves, blossoms, and fruit. The disease appears with the opening of buds which were infected the previous season. The first symptoms are felt-like patches of fungus mycelium on the lower surface of leaves which soon become crinkled and curled. The fungus spreads rapidly and soon covers the entire leaf surface with mycelium and a powdery coating of spores. The entire growing terminal may be affected. The terminals become stunted and may be killed as a result of the disease. Blossoms may become infected from the overwintering mycelium in the dormant buds. In this case, the floral parts are so badly deformed that no fruit is produced. Fruit infection usually occurs shortly after blossoming and appears on the fruit as a net-type russett. Protectant sprays are required from early pink through mid-summer to suppress this disease.

APPLE RUSTS - Both cedar rust and quince rust are serious apple diseases in the Appalachian area. Red cedar is the alternate host for both the cedar-apple and quince rusts. Cedar rust, caused by the fungus Gymnosporangium juniperi virginianae appears as orange or greenish yellow spots on the fruit and as yellowish to orange spots on the leaves. Leaf infection results in extensive defoliation and devitalization of the tree during dry periods. York Imperial, Rome Beauty, and Jonathan are the most susceptible of the varieties grown in Virginia. Cedar-apple rust galls or "cedar apples" are located on the twigs of cedar. They develop masses of gelatinous spore horns early in the growing season, during rainy periods, from which spores are discharged that infect the apple.

Quince rust, incited by the fungus Gymnosporangium clavipes, has caused heavy losses of Red Delicious, Stayman, Winesap, Rome, and York under Virginia conditions. The disease appears as sunken or deformed areas in the fruit, ranging from deep green to brown. The sunken or deformed areas usually are located on the calyx end of the fruit. The infection goes deep into the fruit and makes it worthless. Quince rust does not affect apple foliage. Protectant sprays are required from early pink through June 10 for control of the rust diseases.

BLACK ROT of apple, caused by Physalospora obtusa, occurs throughout the warmer regions of the world. The fungus attacks fruit, leaves, and limbs. Infection of the fruit may occur from the time the fruit is initiated until harvest. Also, the fungus may cause postharvest decay. The disease first appears as a small brown spot any place on the surface of the fruit. The black rot infection develops slowly and complete decay of the fruit usually does not occur until the fruit is mature. As the rot progresses, the decayed tissue is firm and leathery. Eventually the decayed fruit becomes shrunken and mummied. Finally, the rotted fruit turns black; hence, the common name, black rot. Symptoms first appear on the leaves as small dark purplish spots. As the spots enlarge, they are irregularly shaped. The margins of the lesions retain their purple cast while the centers become brown or yellowish brown; thus, the popular common name, frog-eye leaf spot.

BOTRYOSPHERA ROT OF APPLE caused by the fungus, Botryosphaeria ribis, is widespread and attacks many host plants. Fruit infection may occur from the time of initiation to harvest. The small lesions (rot infections) first appear as small, circular, brown spots surrounded by a conspicuous red area. The infections start slowly but progress rapidly as the fruit approaches maturity. The lesions on fruit of the redskinned varieties may bleach during the decaying process; thus, the disease has acquired the name "white rot". Completely rotted fruit exude droplets of a clear gummy fluid and eventually mummify.

BITTER ROT, caused by the fungus Glomerella cingulata, is occasionally a serious disease of apples in Virginia. It is most serious during warm, moist summers. These conditions frequently exist in the eastern and southern sections of Virginia. Bitter rot begins on the fruit as small, light brown spots just under the skin. These spots grow rapidly in warm, moist weather. Masses of spores are formed in pustules arranged in concentric rings on the surface of the spots. Rain disperses the spores to other fruit and branches below where they may start a new infection. The rotted fruit hangs on the tree and dries out. It is important that all mummied fruit and cankered branches be removed during the pruning operation, since they may supply inoculum for new infections.

SOOTY BLOTCH AND FLY SPECK are surface blemish diseases which commonly appear on apples in late summer and fall. Although the 2 diseases almost always appear together, they are caused by different fungi. Sooty blotch, caused by the fungus Gloeodes pomigena, appears as more or less sooty smudges or spots; while fly speck, caused by the fungus Microthyriella rubi, appears as small circular black spots which occur in groups and resemble true fly specks. The development of both diseases is favored by moderate temperatures and high humidity. Infection may occur as early as June, but late-summer infection is the major concern with these diseases. Both diseases are superficial and do not rot the fruit, although sooty blotch-affected fruit may shrivel in storage as a result of the ruptured cuticle.

APPLE INSECTS

APHIDS - Two species of aphid can cause problems with tree production: (1) Rosy Apple Aphid - This pink-bodied aphid causes severe puckering and knotting of the fruit. Infestations may be noted by the curling and wrinkling of leaves near young apples; (2) Woolly Apple Aphid - This aphid affects the root systems primarily but may be found in cracks and wounds on the upper portions of the trees. They produce a white waxy mass over their reddish-purple bodies. On the roots they cause galls and an increased number of secondary roots, which stunt the tree and reduce production.

CODLING MOTH - Damage by this pest is usually recognized as a hole bored into the side or blossom end of the fruit. This pest completely destroys the infested fruit. It is a pinkish-white worm with a brown head. At maturity the larva (worm) leaves the apple and falls to the ground or climbs to the trunk of the tree to pupate, overwintering in this condition.

CURCULIO - Injury is shown by small crescent-shape cuts in the skin of small fruits with a small hole at one end into which the egg is deposited. Depressions usually develop at such sites. Examination reveals a grayish-white worm inside. Infested fruits fall prematurely and are usually hard, knotty, and misshapen.

MITES - Two species are usually injurious to apple foliage -- the two-spotted mite and the European red mite. They produce a stippling of the leaves by puncturing the cells of the leaf and sucking out the juices. A silk webbing over the infested area is also common. It also helps to explain the origin of their name as spider mites. The two-spotted may be green or orange in color, depending on host and time of year, with two large dark spots on the lateral margins (sides) of the abdomen. The European red mite is dark red with dorsal hairs on humps of the body and has tan legs. A hand lens is required for good observation of these pests.

PEACH AND NECTARINE DISEASES

PEACH LEAF CURL, a fungus disease, is found throughout the world where peaches are grown. The disease is destructive and causes economic losses under Virginia growing conditions. Peach leaf curl is carried overwinter by tiny fungus spores lodged on the surface of twigs and bud scales of the peach or nectarine trees. With the coming of spring and the swelling of the buds, if conditions of moisture and temperature are suitable, the spores germinate, and those that come into contact with the young developing leaves cause an infection. The infected leaves are thickened, and as they develop, the leaf becomes folded with the edges curling inward, so that the undersurface of the leaf is a series of concaved chambers. Very shortly after leaf symptoms appear, it turns red to purple and becomes extremely conspicuous. The bright color soon fades into a yellowish brown to brown, and the leaf withers and falls off. One application of Ferbam during November or early spring before bud break will control this disease.

PEACH SCAB, caused by the fungus Cladosporium carpophilum, is widespread in peach and nectarine growing areas of Virginia. The main loss from the disease is from the unsightly blotches on the fruit. The disease first appears on the fruit as small, poorly defined, olivaceous spots less than 1/16" in diameter, usually on the upper exposed surface of the fruit. The spots may be numerous on the upper surface of the fruit, more scattered on the sides, and nearly absent to absent on the protected lower surface. The spots may merge forming a uniform, dark-olivaceous, velvety blotch over the surface of the scabbed area. Since the cork area cannot expand with growth of the fruit, fissures and/or cracks appear in the fruit providing avenues for brown rot infection.

BROWN ROT caused by a fungus, Monilinia fructicola, is the most destructive disease of cherry, nectarine, peach, and plum. The brown rot fungus may overwinter on mummies (old decayed fruit) on the ground, mummies on the tree, and in twig cankers. The brown rot fungus becomes active about the time pink begins to show in the buds, provided there is sufficient rainfall. The brown rot fungus spores attack the blossoms, twigs, and fruit. Blossom blight and early twig infections establish centers of infection which may supply inoculum for fruit infection during periods of rainfall throughout the growing season. Therefore, it is important to control these early infections. Brown rot on the fruit becomes more evident as the fruit approaches maturity. The first evidence of the rot is the appearance of a small, circular brown spot that enlarges very rapidly as the fruit approaches maturity. The rotted fruit soon becomes covered with ash colored tufts of conidia. These masses of spores supply inoculum to infect other fruit. The greatest loss from brown rot occurs from fruit rot in the orchard, in transit, and in the market place. The fungus decays or rots a mature fruit very rapidly. Use chemical sprays as suggested in spray schedule for brown rot control.

BLACK KNOT is the most conspicuous disease of plum, prune, and cherry trees. Most commercial and home-fruit growers, at one time or another, have observed the black warty growth on twigs and branches of plum and cherry trees. Trees infected with black knot become almost worthless after a few years, if no control practices are used. Twigs and branches may be girdled by the infection and with a large number of infections per tree the trees go into a general decline. Black knot is caused by a fungus called Dibotryon morbosum. It attacks many species of wild and cultivated plums and cherries including American, European, and Japanese varieties of plums, Damson Plum, and prunes and both sour and sweet cherries. The disease is destructive and widespread in Virginia.

SYMPTOMS: Infection occurs primarily on wood of the current season's growth. The infections are caused by small (microscopic) spores which attack the tree from bloom through late May to early June depending on the climatic conditions. The first evidence of the disease is swelling of the infected twigs or branches during the late summer or fall of the year of infection. Ordinarily, the infected area swells rapidly and the bark is ruptured the following spring. The infection continues to develop throughout the second growing season and the life cycle is usually completed during the second spring after infection with the production of small spores (seed), called ascospores, which may start new infection centers. The elongated black swelling may be from less than an inch to more than a foot in length. The malformation may encircle the entire branch, but is usually one-sided. The cankered areas are greenish when they are first formed, but become black with age. Branches not killed by the disease may be killed by insects that enter the infected area. Infrequently, twigs or branches are deformed and turn right angles at the point of infection.

CONTROL: Sanitation is extremely important in controlling black knot. All the knots on small twigs and branches should be pruned out during the dormant season and burned. The cuts should be made 4" below the knots. Knots on one side of large limbs that need to be saved can be removed by cutting out the swellings. When knots are removed from a limb, the wound area should be painted with a good asphalt or oil base paint. Close observation should be made annually during the pruning season to detect and remove any new black knot infections. Pruning alone, however, is not adequate control of the disease. The use of a fungicide spray program (see section on recommended chemical control) along with the sanitation program will usually give good control of black knot.

PEACH INSECTS

SCALES - Four different scales may be found on this fruit -- White Peach scale, San Jose scale, Terrapin scale, and European Fruit Lecanium. These are small insects which usually go unnoticed until population begins to injure the tree. The Terrapin and European Fruit Lecanium are small, usually, and shiny brown in color, whereas the San Jose scale may be the same color as the tree bark and may give the tree a roughened appearance when the population is high. The White Peach scale is easily recognized as the males give the branch a whitewashed appearance. All these scales have more than one generation a year on peach, are very reproductive, and can kill branches and even the trees if uncontrolled. These insects suck plant juices and gradually hinder tree development. The easiest times to control these are in the crawler stages (just after hatching from the egg). Where populations are found, make checks and spray for live scales throughout the growing season.

SHOTHOLE BORER - This small beetle is a serious pest of the young buds. They grow and reproduce in dead or dying wood in the tree or trees. They are highly reproductive with overlapping generations. They feed on the buds as well as the trunks and branches. Their name was derived from the numerous little holes they make in the branches where they emerge -- resembling a branch shot by a shotgun. If the bark is removed, the wood beneath has numerous galleries and pockets with small white C-shaped larvae. Any dead or dying branch or trees should be removed as soon as possible and destroyed. Sap oozing from numerous buds and small holes in the branches is a good indication of infestation. The pest is a small black beetle about 1/16 inch long and round in shape.

BORERS - Both the peach tree borer and the lesser peach borer are damaging to the trees. These larvae cause similar problems but attack the trees at different points. The lesser attacks the upper branches; the peach tree borers attack the roots. Both cause gummy flows of the sap which is visible on the outer surface of the tree. High infestations of the creamy white larvae can reduce production as well as eventually kill the trees.

ORIENTAL FRUIT MOTH - This small moth is highly damaging to the new growth and fruit. The larvae bore down the young shoots and into the fruit through the stems. The larvae eat out the seed and ruin the fruit. Fruit may show no signs of damage until after picking. Trees should be examined for new or young terminals which die suddenly. There are several generations a year, the latter generation boring into the sides of the fruit much like the codling moths in apples.

PLUM CURCULIO AND MITES - See section under apples.

RASPBERRY AND BLACKBERRY DISEASES AND INSECTS

The **ANTHRACNOSE** fungus attacks the leaves and canes of both raspberries and blackberries. Anthracnose symptoms first appear on the canes as light-grayish spots about 1/8" in diameter. The spots enlarge and develop rather conspicuous borders (dark in color) with gray centers. Infected canes may become girdled or cracked causing either decline or death. Spots on the leaves are small with gray centers and purple margins. Leaf infection rarely causes defoliation. The infected tissue, however, may drop out and give the leaf a shothole appearance. In general, fruit on infected canes ripens abnormally.

The **CANE BLIGHT** disease is widespread in areas of raspberry culture. The causal fungus enters the canes only through wounds. Dark-brown cankers appear at the wound site and as the disease progresses, they extend down the cane and may encircle it. The lateral branches of infected canes wilt and die during warm weather.

LEAF SPOT - The disease occurs throughout the United States and is of economic concern in Virginia. Symptoms are first noticed on raspberry as tiny greenish-black spots on the upper surface of the leaves. The spots turn gray as the leaves mature. The infected area may drop out to leave a shot-hole appearance. Symptoms may be slightly different on blackberry. Spots with whitish centers and purple or brown borders occur both on the leaves and canes.

JAPANESE BEETLES usually appear in large numbers and feed on the leaves and fruit of many plants. They can cause defoliation and stunting; they can cause reduced production and death if defoliation is too severe.

STRAWBERRY DISEASES

LEAF SPOT - The disease is caused by a fungus, Mycosphaerella fragariae, that attacks the leaves, petioles, fruit stalks, stolons, and fruit caps. The first symptoms appear on the upper side of the leaves as small purplish spots. Later these spots enlarge to 1/4 to 1/2 inch in diameter with gray to tan centers and distinct purple margins. The spots are tan to bluish on the underside of the leaves. The varieties Dorsett, Fairfax, Premier, Midland, Klommore, Rockhill, and Albritton are resistant to leaf spot; while, the varieties Blakemore, Catskill, Earlidawn, Robinson, and Surecrop are moderately resistant to slightly susceptible.

LEAF SCORCH - The disease is caused by a fungus, Diplocarpon earliana, that attacks leaves, petioles, stolons, fruit stalks, and fruit caps. Symptoms appear as small dark purple spots up to 1/4 inch in diameter on the upper surface of the leaves. These spots are more irregular in outline than the leaf spot disease and they never have tan centers. The varieties Albritton, Blakemore, Catskill, Fairfax, Premier, Surecrop, Sunrise, Earlibelle, Dorsett are resistant to leaf scorch.

LEAF BLIGHT, caused by the fungus Dendrophoma obscurans, is usually less destructive than leaf scorch or leaf spot in Virginia. The fungus overwinters on infected plants and is dispersed to healthy plants by rain and cultural tools. The disease first appears as red to brown spots with purplish margins. Spots are from 1/4 to 1 inch across and are oval to triangular in shape. The varieties Earlidawn, Empire, and Premier seem to have some resistance to leaf blight.

STRAWBERRY ROOT DISEASES. Several destructive root diseases occur on strawberry. Black root rot, Red stele, Verticillium wilt, and nematode infection are the major root diseases. One or more of the diseases may kill the plants in large areas of the planting or damage the roots so badly that production is greatly reduced. The root disease fungi and nematodes usually survive in the soil of infested fields for a number of years. They may be carried into disease-free fields on new plants or in soil carried on equipment or washed in by surface water. Strawberry root diseases are too complex to be discussed in this publication.

FRUIT ROTS - There are several fruit rots of strawberries but only one is of major importance in Virginia. Grey mold, caused by the fungus Botrytis cinerea, is the most important of the fruit rots in Virginia. The berries may be attacked at any stage of their development. The fungus often attacks blossoms and green fruit, particularly where the fruit stalk or fruit cap has been injured by frost. The berries may become infected from spores from dead petals adhering to the fruit, another decayed berry, or from a dead leaf. The disease first appears as a light brown, soft spot. The rot completely decays the entire berry. The decayed berry becomes firm, tough, brown throughout and is covered with a powdery greyish growth of the fungus. Spray strawberries as suggested in the spray schedule for disease control.

STRAWBERRY INSECTS

MITES - See section under apples.

APHIDS - Infestation is noted by loss of vigor in plants, leaves becoming pale, fruit drying up and failing to mature properly. These pests are found on the roots of the plants. They are small and bluish green in color. Their presence may also be associated with a high ant population in the strawberry patch.

GRAPE DISEASES

BLACK ROT is a widespread disease of grapes, and it probably causes greater loss to growers in Virginia than all other diseases combined. This disease is caused by a fungus, Guignardia bidwellii, that attacks the leaves, shoots, tendrils, canes, blossoms, and fruit. Only the youngest tissues are susceptible, although the fruit may become infected until it is almost fully grown.

The foliage infections appear in the spring as tiny, more or less circular spots. They are reddish-brown and are usually encircled by a yellow ring. Through the coalescence of many spots, large areas of the leaf may become affected. Although spotting occurs on the foliage in the spring, the disease does not attract much attention until mid-summer, when the nearly half grown grapes begin to rot.

The disease on the fruit first appears as light-brownish, soft, circular spots, which enlarge rapidly, and after a few days the entire berry is discolored. The decaying berries soon begin to shrivel, and within a week they are transformed into black, hard, shriveled mummies, which may remain attached to the bunch for several weeks. The attached mummied fruit is covered with small fruiting bodies of the black rot fungus that exude infective spores during moist wet weather to start new infections on susceptible parts of the vines.

DOWNY MILDEW is a fungus disease, primarily of the grape foliage. If the disease occurs early in the season, however, the young bunches of berries may be entirely killed by the attack on the stem as well as of the young fruit. The causal fungus, Plasmopara viticola, is widespread in nature. The first evidence of the disease on the leaves appears as light-yellow spots on the upper surface of the oldest leaves in the center of the vine. Later a white moldy growth of the fungus mycelial threads and spores form on the under surface of the leaves. The fungus spreads from the older foliage to the foliage at the end of the canes as the leaves mature. By autumn, highly susceptible varieties are completely defoliated and the clusters of fruit may be scalded by the sun. Also, vines defoliated before the ripening season cannot mature the fruit normally and the fruit is of inferior quality.

POWDERY MILDEW is caused by a fungus known as Uncinula necator. It is present in many vineyards, but it is of little economic importance in Virginia. The fungus primarily attacks the foliage and cluster stems; it appears on the berries only in unusually favorable seasons. Powdery mildew infection appears as a superficial, grayish-white growth on the infected parts of the vine. Severely affected leaves turn brown and defoliation occurs. If the berries are infected, the surface appears russet or scurfy. They fail to mature properly, but no rot is associated with the injury. Infection of the cluster stem may cause shelling if the fruit is not harvested immediately.

ANTHRACNOSE OR BIRD'S-EYE ROT disease is sporadic in nature and its occurrence is usually localized. It is caused by the fungus Elsinoe ampelina. The disease may do considerable damage in a vineyard or locality for a few years, then disappear. The fungus overwinters in the infected canes and gives rise to infective spores during the spring. The fruit, young shoots, tendrils, petioles, leaf veins, and fruit stems may be attacked severely. Numerous spots will unite and cause girdling. Similar spots develop on the petioles and leaves. Badly infected leaves curl downward from the margins, becoming distorted and spotted and the diseased areas drop out so that the leaf appears ragged. On the fruit the spots are circular, sunken, and ashy gray. In the late stages of the disease, the spots are surrounded by a dark margin. The name of "bird's-eye rot," sometimes applied to this disease, is derived from the appearance of the spots on the berries.

DEAD ARM is primarily a disease of the trunk and main branches of the vine and is caused by the fungus Phomopsis viticola. The fungus can attack young shoots, fruit stems, and occasionally berries. The fungus overwinters in the infected tissue and produces spores during May and June to cause new infections. The most easily recognized symptom is the dead arm (branch) on the vine. This is observed in the spring when the vine either fails to put out shoots or the shoots die back after a few weeks. In June or early July the young branches or shoots on the diseased arm are stunted and have shortened internodes which become progressively shortened and stunted from year to year. The primary leaves are about half the size of normal leaves and are misshapen. Badly lesioned vines are weakened and usually die during the dormant period. Early symptoms occur in June and are frequently masked by secondary growth that occurs from axillary buds in early July. The new growth, however, usually dies by late July or August.

The disease occurs on new cane growth as small purple to black sunken lesions on the first 3 or 4 internodes. These lesions may also occur on the leaf petioles or fruiting stems. The necrotic lesions can be seen under the bark of older canes and trunk tissue. The lesion stage on the trunk may exist 2 to 3 years before leaf symptoms appear. Apply sprays as suggested in the spray schedule for control of all grape diseases.

GRAPE INSECTS

GRAPE BERRY MOTH - Infestation is indicated by the webbing together of grape berries. They turn dark purple in color and drop from the stems when grapes are the size of garden peas. Small holes are eaten in the almost ripened grapes. The infested clusters are webbed together and may include parts of leaves and frass. Small grayish-green worms may be found inside damaged berries.

GRAPE ROOT BORER - This pest is a major problem on bunch grapes. Vines become weak and die for no apparent reason. Upon digging in the root system, various size round white larvae may be found eating on the roots and trunk of the vine. These pests may be controlled by digging out the larvae or by covering the root area with 8 to 10 inches of soil around the vine in early August. The mound of soil should be removed from around the vines in the spring.

ROSE CHAFER - This long-legged, fawn-colored beetle feeds on the leaves and blossoms of grapes. It is most numerous for the first 2 or 3 weeks after bloom.

JAPANESE BEETLE - See section under Raspberry and Blackberry Diseases and Insects.

GRAPE TOMATO GALL - Large reddish-purple swellings occur on the leaves, flowers, and petioles of the vines. This is caused by a small fly; regular control measures will prevent its occurrence. The name is noted from the tomato-like smell of the galls once they are opened.

SPRAY SCHEDULE FOR APPLES AND PEARS

Time of Application	Materials to Use		To Control	Remarks
	- $\frac{\text{Fungicide}}{\text{Insecticide}}$ -	- /Gallon ^{1/} -		
DORMANT Prior to bud swell	NO FUNGICIDE superior oil		Mites and Scales	Follow manufacturer's recommendation as to amount. Apply 1 week before bud break.
DELAYED DORMANT When leaves are 1/2 to 3/4 inch long	2.0 Tbs. Dikar 76W + 3.0 Tbs. Malathion 25W 2.0 Tbs. Methoxychlor 50W		Scab, Powdery mildew, Rust, Mites, Aphids, Leafrollers	Scab infection may occur at this time. Important spray for mites and aphids.
PRE-PINK First Pink in floral buds	Same as Delayed Dormant		Scab, Powdery mildew, Rust, Aphids, Mites, Leafrollers	Important for rust control.
PINK When flowers have separated just before bloom	Same as Delayed Dormant + Add Streptomycin		Scab, Powdery mildew, Rust, Apple rot, Fire blight, Aphids, Mites, Green fruit worms, Leafrollers, Plant bugs	Add Streptomycin as to manufacturer's recommendations.
BLOOM	2.0 Tbs. Captan 50W 1.0 Tsp. Streptomycin 15W* DO NOT USE INSECTICIDE PROTECT BEES		Scab, Rust, Powdery mildew, Apple rots, Fire blight	*Also follow label recommendations for rate of Streptomycin.
PETAL FALL When most of the petals have fallen	2.0 Tbs. Dikar 76W 3.0 Tbs. Malathion 25W 2.0 Tbs. Methoxychlor 50W		Scab, Rust, Powdery mildew, Rots, Fire blight, Curculio, Codling moth, Aphids, Mites	If Fire blight is present, add Streptomycin to this spray. Important for codling moth control.
FIRST THROUGH FIFTH COVER SPRAYS First cover 10 days after petal fall, second through fifth at 14-day intervals	Same as Petal fall		Same as Petal fall	If Mites become a problem, add 1.0 Tbs. of Kelthane 35W to the spray. If Japanese beetles become a problem, substitute 2.0 Tbs. Sevin 50W for Methoxychlor (Do not use Sevin until 30 days after bloom).
SIXTH AND SEVENTH COVER SPRAYS Two-week intervals, may not be required for early maturing	2.0 Tbs. Phaltan 50W or 2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W + 3.0 Tbs. Malathion 25W 2.0 Tbs. Methoxychlor 50W		Apple rots, Sooty blotch, Flyspeck, Apple maggots, Codling moth, and other insects	Same as 1st through 5th covers. Generally speaking, apply protectant sprays up to 25 to 30 days of harvest.

^{1/}Material to use is given for one gallon, but the user can easily substitute the required amount of material to make five, ten, fifteen, twenty, or twenty-five gallons of spray.

SPRAY SCHEDULE FOR CHERRIES*, NECTARINES, PEACHES, PLUMS* AND PRUNES*

Time of Application	Materials to Use		To Control	Remarks
	- Fungicide -	- - /Gallon		
DORMANT Before buds begin to swell	2.0 Tbs. Ferbam 76W		Peach leaf curl	Apply to nectarine and peaches only. All buds must be thoroughly covered. Follow manufacturer's recommendation.
	Superior spray oil		Scale, Mites	

	Remove and destroy all mummied fruit still hanging on the tree and on the ground. This will reduce inoculum that causes blossom blight and the later fruit brown rot.			
PINK SPRAY Early pink to full pink	General Purpose Mixture (Table 1)		Tarnished Plant bugs, Green Aphids and Blossom blight	Plums and cherries are not pink, but apply spray at same stage of bud development.
BLOSSOM SPRAYS Apply just before first blossoms open, and in full blossom	2.0 Tbs. Captan 50W 1.0 Tbs. benomyl 50W NO INSECTICIDE PROTECT BEES		Brown rot blossom blight	This is an important spray, particularly late full bloom, as the deteriorating petals are susceptible to the brown rot fungus.
PETAL FALL-THROUGH FIFTH COVER Apply when all petals have fallen, then at 14-day intervals for 5 spray applications	Petal fall only 2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W 3.0 Tbs. Malathion 25W 2.0 Tbs. Methoxychlor 50W 1st through 5th cover General Purpose Mixture (Table 1)		Brown rot, Scab, Powdery mildew, Curculio, Catfacing insects, Mites, Aphids, Oriental fruit moth	If Mites build up, add 1.0 Tbs. Kelthane to any of the sprays.
PRE-HARVEST Apply 3- and 1-week before harvest on all varieties	2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W NO INSECTICIDE (See Remarks)		Brown rot on fruit	If Japanese beetles are a problem, 2.0 Tbs. Sevin 50W can be added to the spray up to 1-day before harvest.
AFTER HARVEST Immediately after harvest	2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W		Cherry leaf spot	Cherries only
PEACH TREE BORER SPRAYS These two sprays should be applied about July 15 and August 15 to 25 to all species and varieties	2.0 Tbs. Endosulfan 50W (Thiodan)		Peach tree borers	Apply to trunks and large limbs only. Caution: Do not spray fruit with this chemical. Do not apply within 21-days of harvest. Use after harvest if possible. "Extremely toxic."

*There are no fungicides approved for "black knot" control on plums, prunes, or cherries. In home fruit planting where a good spray program for brown rot control is followed, black knot usually will not be a problem.

SPRAY SCHEDULE FOR GRAPES

Time of Application	Materials to Use		To Control	Remarks
	- $\frac{\text{Fungicides}}{\text{Insecticides}}$ -	- /Gallon		
DORMANT Before buds swell	8.0 Tbs. Copper Sulfate 8.0 Tbs. Hydrated lime (Bordeaux Mixture)		Anthracnose	This spray is necessary only in vineyards where Anthracnose has been a problem.
NEW SHOOT SPRAYS When new shoots are 1-2" long, when new shoots are 6-8" long	General Purpose Mixture** (Table 1) + 1.0 Tbs. Folpet 50W (Phaltan)		Black rot, Downy mildew, Dead arm, *Anthracnose, Flea beetles, Powdery mildew	Rake up and destroy all grape leaves, broken canes, dead twigs, and branches early in the spring to reduce disease and insect incidence.
PREBLOOM SPRAY Just before blossoms open	General Purpose Mixture (Table 1) + 1.0 Tbs. Ferbam 76W**		Same as new shoot spray plus berry moth, leafhopper	Important black rot spray thorough coverage necessary for control.
POST-BLOOM SPRAY Immediately after bloom	General Purpose Mixture (Table 1) + 1.0 Tbs. Folpet 50W (Phaltan)		Same as Prebloom	Same as Prebloom. If Powdery mildew is a problem, substitute 2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W for folpet.
PEA SIZE SPRAY When berries are about pea sizes, but before they touch in clusters	Same as Post-bloom spray		Same as Post-bloom	If Japanese beetles have appeared, substitute 2.0 Tbs. Sevin 50W for Methoxychlor.
BERRIES TOUCH IN CLUSTER 10-14 days after pea size spray	1.0 Tbs. Folpet 50W 2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W** 3.0 Tbs. Malathion 25W 2.0 Tbs. Sevin 50W		Same as Pea size spray plus Japanese beetle	Continue good coverage.
JUNE AND JULY Apply at two-week interval until harvest	Same as Berries touch in cluster spray		Same as Berry-touch in cluster spray plus ripe rots	During harvest if rots are a problem, substitute 2.0 Tbs. of Captan 50W for benomyl and spray only with Captan and/or folpet during harvest.

* There are no organic fungicides approved for Anthracnose. But if a good control program is used for other diseases, anthracnose usually will not be a problem.

** Captan and Ferbam are not approved for powdery mildew. If powdery mildew is a problem, use Benlate or folpet. Benlate is not approved for ripe rot. But if other diseases are controlled, ripe rot will not be a problem. Do not use captan more than three times after bloom.

SPRAY SCHEDULE FOR BLACKBERRY AND RASPBERRY

Time of Application	Materials to Use		To Control	Remarks
	- Fungicides -	- Insecticides - /Gallon		
DELAYED DORMANT When buds begin to break	(Bordeaux Mixture) 8.0 Tbs. Copper Sulfate 8.0 Tbs. hydrated lime		Anthracnose, cane blight, spur blight	A good thinning, pruning and a general clean up and removal of dead canes will help control Anthracnose as well as cane and spur blight.
NEW CANE SPRAY When new canes are 6-12" high	2.0 Tbs. Captan 50W 1.0 Tbs. Ferbam 76W No Insecticide		Same as Delayed Dormant	Good coverage is important since the canes and foliage are hard to wet.
PRE-BLOOM Just before blossoms open	General Purpose Mixture (Table 1) + 1.0 Tbs. Kelthane 35W		Same as New cane spray plus thrips, Mites, Strawberry weevil, sawflies	Coverage is a must to be sure of insect control, fruit worms may or may not be present.
POST-BLOOM UNTIL HARVEST At 10- to 14-day intervals	2.0 Tbs. Captan 50W 3.0 Tbs. Malathion 25W 2.0 Tbs. Sevin 50W 1.0 Tbs. Kelthane 35W		Same as Pre-bloom spray plus Japanese beetles and fruit rot	Malathion is necessary if sap beetle appears as fruit begins to color.
AFTER HARVEST Apply in 14-days	2.0 Tbs. Captan 50W 2.0 Tbs. Sevin 50W		Anthracnose Japanese beetles	Various borers do cause problems in the canes of brambles*.

*Canes with borer damage, wilted and with galls should be cut and burned. Also control weeds because they harbor insects and diseases.

SPRAY SCHEDULE FOR STRAWBERRIES

Time of Application	Materials to Use		To Control	Remarks
	- Fungicides -	- Insecticides - /Gallon		
WHEN BLOSSOM BUDS ARE VISIBLE IN THE CROWN	General Purpose Mixture (Table 1) + 1.0 Tbs. Kelthane 35W + 2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W		Blossom clippers, Weevil, Spittlebug, Spider mites, Leaf aphids, Fruit rots, Leaf spots and tarnished plant bugs	Good thinning and mulching of plants during late February to early March is important for fruit rot control.
PRE-BLOOM When flowers have pushed out of the crown	Same as above		Same as above	Essential spray for later fruit rot control.

SPRAY SCHEDULE FOR STRAWBERRIES (CONT'D)

Time of Application	Materials to Use		To Control	Remarks
	- Fungicides -	- Insecticides - /Gallon		
BLOOM	3.0 Tbs. Captan 50W		Fruit rots, Leaf spots,	Be sure of complete coverage for future fruit rot control.
When most blossoms are full open	2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W		Mites	
	1.0 Tbs. Kelthane 35W			
	No Insecticide			
POST-BLOOM	3.0 Tbs. Captan 50W*		Fruit rots, Leaf spots,	Spraying for strawberry pest must be thorough to get good coverage. Use 40-50 pounds of pressure in the tank and hold nozzle close enough to force spray between foliage.
Apply 10-days after bloom and continue at 7-10 day intervals until harvest	2.0 Tsp. benomyl 50W		Aphids, Mites	
	1.0 Tbs. Kelthane 35W			
	3.0 Tbs. Malathion 25W			
	2.0 Tbs. Methoxychlor 50W			

*Captan 50W 3.0 Tbs./gallon can be used during harvest for fruit rot control.

Control Broadleaf Weeds and Grass Around Home Fruit Trees. Rodents are serious pests of home fruit trees. They eat bark from the main roots and trunk near and below the ground line. The injury may occur at any time, but is usually more serious in the fall and winter months. Natural predators such as hawks, owls, and cats will reduce the rodent population if the protective cover is eliminated. Mow the grass closely around the trees and throughout the home orchard. Use herbicides or a hoe and remove all vegetation within 18 inches of the trunk of each tree. This will usually take care of the rodent problem.

Prevent Rabbit Damage to Young Fruit Trees. During the winter months when food is scarce and hard to find, rabbits will eat the bark from the trunk and lower limbs (scaffold limbs) of young fruit trees. They rarely bother older trees. One can purchase a circular metal guard 18 inches tall and approximately 8 inches in diameter made of hardware cloth or similar material which when placed around the young trees will protect them from rabbits. Aluminum foil, however, is more economical and will serve the same purpose. Either staple it around the young tree trunks or wrap it around them and secure it with a string. Remove the aluminum foil each spring. It should be noted, however, that if a deep snow forms a crust, rabbits may be able to stand on the snow and eat above the guards. Therefore, also wrap the lower scaffold limbs with aluminum foil.

Table 3. Waiting Period in Days Before Harvest Application

Chemical	Apple	Pear	Peach	Nectarine	Plum	Cherry	Grape	Raspberry	Strawberry	
Methoxychlor	7	7	21	21	7	7	14	14	14	
Malathion	3	1	7	7	3	3	3	1	3	
Carbaryl (Sevin)	1	1	1	3	1	1	0	7	1	
Ferbam	7	7	21	--	7	0	7	40	14	
Zineb	15	7	30	40	30	7	7	14	7	
Captan	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Folpet (Phaltan)	0	-----not cleared-----					0	0	0	0
Dicofol (Kelthane)	7	7	14	14	7	7	7	2	2	
Endosulfan (Thiodan)	--	--	30	30	--	21	-----not cleared-----			
Benomyl (Benlate)	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	not cleared	0	
Dikar	21	-----not cleared-----								

Table 4. Residue Tolerance in Parts Per Million

Chemical	Apple	Pear	Peach	Nectarine	Plum	Cherry	Grape	Raspberry	Strawberry
Methoxychlor	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Malathion	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Carbaryl (Sevin)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	12	10
Ferbam	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Zineb	2	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Captan	25	25	50	50	50	100	50	25	25
Folpet (Phaltan)	25	-----	not cleared	-----	-----	50	25	25	25
Dicofol (Kelthane)	5	5	10	10	5	5	5	5	5
Endosulfan (Thiodan)	--	--	2	2	--	2	-----	not cleared	-----
Benomyl (Benlate)	7.0	--	15	15	15	15	10	7.0	5
Dikar	7.1	-----	-----	-----	-----	not cleared	-----	-----	-----

WEED CONTROL IN HOME FRUIT

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Measures considered practical for control of weeds by the home owner on a small area are quite different than those employed by the commercial producer. Homeowners often have a very limited area that may not justify a precise pesticide application. Thus some of the materials recommended for commercial use are excluded from homeowner recommendations because they are highly toxic, not readily available in small quantities, or require rather precise application.

If your need for use of these materials is sufficient, you may consult the information designed for commercial production. Some of the materials used by commercial growers require that the applicator be certified as a pesticide applicator.

For extremely small areas, mechanical removal by mowing or tillage is often the most practical. Mulching is also an extremely effective way to handle weed problems on a limited area. Several types of material may be used as mulch. Some commonly used include: several layers of newspaper, tarred felt (roofing paper), grass clippings that have been treated with pesticides. Some pesticides can be carried in the grass clippings and may affect the growth of the plants in the mulched area or result in undesirable chemical residues in the fruit itself.

If you are not familiar with the application of pesticides, consult a knowledgeable individual before proceeding. Used correctly, herbicides can be very effective, but if misused they may kill the desirable crop plant.

Rates of application are given in pounds of product per acre. The following table will be helpful for converting to small areas. Note that 3 pounds per acre is only 0.1 oz per 100 sq ft. These are extremely small quantities and very careful measurement and application are required.

CONVERSION OF HERBICIDE PRODUCTS FOR SMALL AREAS¹

Recommended Product (lb/A)	Gram/100 sq ft	Oz/100 sq ft
1	1	.03
2	2	.07
3	3	.10
4	4	.13
5	5	.17
6	6	.20
7	7	.23
8	8	.27
9	9	.30
10	10	.33

¹Approximate values

Products cannot be measured on a volume basis as products vary in density. Even a given product will vary depending upon whether it is loose or compressed.

You can make the conversion to a volume basis by weighing a given volume of product and measuring the volume occupied. For instance, 10 oz of a given wettable powder, loosely compacted, might occupy 20 oz on a volumetric basis. Once you determine volumetric conversion factor, you can proceed to measure the product volumetrically (teaspoons or ounces) rather than by weight.

Crop	Herbicide (Product/Acre)	Remarks
Apples Pears	AMS 57 lb (Ammate 60 lb)	Apply as a directed spray to annual weeds, poison ivy, or honeysuckle during period of active growth. AMS is a contact killer and has little residual soil activity. AMS is corrosive; wash spray equipment immediately after use. Can be used on bearing or nonbearing trees. Spray on bark only if it is well developed and shows no green. Avoid excessive wetting of bark.
	dalapon 7.4 lb (Dowpon 10 lb)	Apply for control of annual or perennial grasses around trees established at least 4 years. Wet grass foliage thoroughly, but without run off, when the grass is actively growing and prior to seed head formation (preferably 6-10" high). A repeat application 2 weeks later is necessary for good control. Do not apply within 30 days of harvest. Keep spray off tree foliage and fruit. Do not make more than 2 applications per year. Do not graze livestock on the treated area.
	dichlobenil 6 lb (Casoron 4 G 150 lb)	Apply granules in the late winter or early spring. Shallow incorporation may improve weed control, especially if application is made during warm temperatures. Do not apply to newly planted trees until 4 weeks after transplanting. Will not give season-long weed control. Do not make more than one application per year. Do not apply within 1 month of harvest. Do not allow livestock to graze treated area.

Crop	Herbicide (Product/Acre)	Remarks
Apples Pears (Continued)	simazine 2-4 lb (Princep 80W 2.5- 5.0 lb)	Apply to clean cultivated soil around trees established 1 year or more. Best results are obtained with winter or early spring applications. Adjust rate of application to soil type. Do not use on sandy or gravelly soils. Do not make more than one application per year.
	2,4-D 2.0 lb (Weedone 638 5.3 pt) or (Emulsamine E3 5.3 pt) or (Dacamine 4D 2 qt)	Use only the acid or oil soluble amine formulations. Apply as a directed spray to actively growing broadleaf weeds. Gives good control of annual broadleaf weeds and partial control of perennials. Keep spray off tree foliage and fruit or serious injury may result. Use a course spray and low pressure to avoid spray drift.
Peaches	dichlobenil 6 lb (Casoron 4 G 150 lb)	Apply granules in the late winter or early spring. Shallow incorporation may improve weed control, especially if application is made during warm temperatures. Do not apply to newly planted trees until 4 weeks after transplanting. Will not give season-long weed control. Do not make more than one application per year. Do not apply within 1 month of harvest. Do not allow livestock to graze treated area.
	simazine 2-4 lb (Princep 80W 2.5- 5.0 lb)	Apply to clean cultivated soil around trees established 1 year or more. Best results are obtained with winter or early spring applications. Adjust rate of application to soil type. Do not use on sandy or gravelly soils. Do not make more than one application per year.
Blackberries and Raspberries	simazine (Princep 80W 2.5-3.75 lb)	Apply for control of annual grasses and broadleaf weeds in the early spring; or as a split treatment with 1/2 applied in the spring. Do not use more than 1/2 rate on new plantings less than 6 months old. Do not apply to foliage or while fruit is present.
Grapes	diuron 2.0 lb (Karmex 80W 2.5 lb) or simazine 2-2.5 lb (Princep 80W 2.5- 3.12 lb)	Apply a single application per year in the early spring after clean cultivation and where vines have been established at least 3 years. Single application may give season-long control of annual weeds. Do not plant treated area to any crop not on the label for 2 years.
Strawberries	DCPA 9 lb (Dacthal 75W 12 lb)	Apply over the top of the plants at transplanting or to established planting in the fall or early spring before annual grasses germinate. Do not apply after first bloom. Annual grass control usually lasts 8-12 weeks.
	chloroxuron 4 lb (Tenoran 50W 8 lb)	Apply over the top of established plants for preemergent control of most annual weeds. Control of emerged seedlings can be obtained while they are in the 2-3 leaf stage. Do not apply on new transplants until they are well established, Do not make more than 2 applications per year. Do not apply within 50 days of harvest.
	2,4-D amine 1.0 lb (Dow Formula 40 1 qt)	Apply for control of emerged broadleaf weeds in established beds. Apply in the early spring when strawberries are dormant, or apply immediately after last picking. Do not apply during bud, flower, or fruit stage; or during runner formation. Some foliar injury is to be expected.
	diphenamid 4-6 lb (Dymid 80W 5-7.5 lb) or (Enide 50W 8-12 lb)	Apply over the top of established plants for preemergent control of most annual weeds. Make application after bed renovation and clean cultivation. Do not apply within 60 days of harvest.

Trade and brand names are used only for the purpose of information and the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service does not guarantee nor warrant the standard of the product, nor does it imply approval of the product to the exclusion of others which may also be suitable.

KEYS TO PROPER USE OF PESTICIDES

1. Read the label on each pesticide container before each use. Follow instructions to the letter; heed all cautions and warnings, and note precautions about residues.
2. Keep pesticides in the containers in which you bought them. Put them where children or animals cannot get to them, preferably under lock and away from food, feed, seed, or other material that may become harmful if contaminated.
3. Dispose of empty containers in the manner specified on the label.

SEE YOUR DOCTOR IF SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS OCCUR DURING OR AFTER USE OF PESTICIDES.

