HOW TO CONTROL TOMATO LATE BLIGHT

Weather conditions during the tomato growing season will determine the extent of the damage caused by tomato late blight. It is good insurance to be prepared to spray or dust your crop, should this become necessary.

SPRAYS OR DUSTS?

Sprays usually give somewhat better results and are cheaper. However, dusts can be more easily and quickly applied than sprays and will give satisfactory control when properly used.

MATERIALS

Use insoluble (metallic) copper compounds either as a dust or as a spray. We recommend the use of a ready-prepared copper dust that contains at least 5% metallic copper. If you prefer to spray, follow the directions, for mixing, given on the container of the copper preparation you buy, or use 4-4-100 Bordeaux.

Insoluble copper compounds may be purchased under various trade names such as Yellow Cuprocide, Tri-Basic Copper Sulphate, Compound A, and many others.

WHEN TO SPRAY OR DUST

In the Mountain areas, start when the growing plants are 10 to 12 inches tall; in other parts of the State, start when the disease first appears in the vicinity. Apply the treatment every week during wet weather and every 10 days when the weather is moderately wet to dry. Repeat applications as soon as possible after heavy rain. This is especially important when using dusts.

EQUIPMENT:

For dusting, a good rotary-type (crank) hand duster is best. However, for very small gardens, a good puff-type duster may be satisfactory. For spraying, a knapsack or a bucket-type sprayer is satisfactory. Don't try to do the job by shaking dust on the plants through a sack or applying the spray with a sprinkling can.

DO A GOOD JOB

Spray or dust the plants thoroughly, getting a uniform coating of the material on all parts of the plants. By doing a good job you will be assured of tomatoes for the table, canning, and marketing.