

## **Problem:** Leaf Spot on Lilac



## **Host Plant:** Lilac

**Description:** Leaf spot on lilac normally only shows up during wet, humid growing seasons. Individual spots may coalesce and lead to the death of large areas of the leaf. Severe cases may cause the plant to defoliate.

Though the shrubs look bad, loss of leaves late in the season will not harm otherwise healthy plants. Therefore, there is no need to apply a fungicide. Also, an application after the leaf spots appear will not help anyway.

**Recommendations:** This disease is weather-dependent and requires wet, humid weather when new leaves are developing to flourish. Symptoms usually present late enough in the season that damage to the plant is negligible. Therefore, we usually do not recommend a fungicide application as the overall health of an otherwise healthy lilac will not be impacted. However, we do recommend raking up and composting or discarding diseased leaves to reduce disease inoculum the following year. Though the effect on the health of the shrub is minor, the disease is unsightly. If you would like to use a fungicide as a preventative, myclobutanil is labeled. Myclobutanil is found in Immunox; F-Stop Lawn & Garden Fungicide and Monterey Fungi-Max. Apply every 10 to 14 days as leaves are developing in the spring.

## **References:**

1. [Cercospora Leaf Spot of Hydrangea](#), University of Arkansas, Research & Extension Publication FSA7570

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