

Problem: Peony Measles - *Graphiopsis chlorocephala* (formerly *Cladosporium paeoniae*)



Host Plants: Peony

Description: This is a disease, also known as leaf blotch or red spot, that causes distinct, reddish-purple spots on the upper leaf surfaces. These spots often coalesce and become large, reddish purple blotches on the upper leaf surfaces but are a light brown color when viewed from the underside of the leaves. The spots on stems will merge and form streaks that are reddish brown.

Recommendations: Sanitation is the best control for this disease. Remove all diseased tissue, including stems, at the end of the growing season or before growth begins in the spring. Mulch that contains plant debris should also be discarded and then replaced with fresh mulch. Reducing the source of the inoculum will reduce the chances of a severe outbreak.

Using drip irrigation rather than overhead watering can also reduce severity.

References:

1. [Peony Leaf Blotch](#), Iowa State University, Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic

Last Update: 1/16/2020

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