

VARIETAL REACTION OF SELECTED ROSE CULTIVARS TO ALTERNARIA PETAL BLIGHT, 2000: Thirty five rose cultivars were evaluated for response to Alternaria petal blight at the Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center in Dallas, Texas. Roses were planted in February through April of 1999 for evaluation in the spring and summer of 2000. The experiment was conducted in a randomized block design with four replications. Plants were non-grafted, given no fertilizer or pesticides, and irrigation was minimal. Alternaria petal blight infection occurred by natural inoculation. The flowers from each plant were visually inspected for Alternaria petal blight symptoms. Disease incidence was determined by the percentage of plants from each cultivar with symptomatic flowers. Evaluations were conducted during the first week of each month throughout the study period.

In June, when disease incidence was greatest, 'Belinda's Dream', 'Pinkie', and 'Sea Foam' had high incidence of Alternaria petal blight. By July, *Alternaria alternata* was no longer actively causing petal spots on any variety.

Variety	Percentage of infected plants*			
	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Annie's Red.....	0 b**	0 c	0 a	0 a
Apricot China.....	0 b	0 c	NF***	0 a
Baty's Pink Pillar.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Belinda.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Belinda's Dream.....	0 b	100 a	0 a	0 a
Blush Noisette.....	0 b	25 bc	0 a	0 a
Bon Silene.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Caldwell Pink.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Cecile Brunner.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Chrysler Imperial.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Consuelo.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Duchesse du Brabant.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Else Poulsen.....	25 ab	25 bc	0 a	0 a
Gartendirektor Otto Linne.....	50 a	25 bc	0 a	0 a
Graham Thomas.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Heritage.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Lindee.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	NF
Livin' Easy.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Louis Philippe.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Maggie.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Marchesa Boccella.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Marie Daly.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Marie Pavie.....	0 b	0 c	NF	0 a
Monsieur Tillier.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Mutabilis.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Perle d'Or.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Pinkie.....	50 a	100 a	0 a	0 a
Puerto Rico.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Sarah Van Fleet.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Sea Foam.....	0 b	100 a	0 a	0 a
Sir Thomas Lipton.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Souvenir de St. Anne.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	0 a
Spice.....	0 b	50 b	0 a	0 a
The Fairy.....	0 b	50 b	0 a	0 a
Zephirine Drouhin.....	0 b	0 c	0 a	NF

* The percentage of four replications with flowers exhibiting symptoms of Alternaria petal blight.

** Means within columns followed by common letters are not different ($P = 0.05$) according to Duncan's multiple-range test.

*** NF: Two or more observations had no flowers.