this month in diseases

lisianthus

By A.R. Chase and Margery Daughtrey

	Disease	Pathogen	Stage of crop	Best cultural controls	Best product controls, based mainly on Chase Research trials	In this issue, we present a summary of diseases that occur in lisianthus. Remember: Product controls are based on research trials and do not reflect an endorsement of any sort.
	Algae	Various green algae	Plugs	Avoid excessive water and fertilization.	Algaecides should be tested for safety to seeds. Xeroton 3 or copper fungicides have been somewhat effective on other plugs.	
	Botrytis blight and stem rot	Botrytis cinerea	Anytime from plug production to finishing	Manage irrigation; don't grow plants under hanging baskets that drop petals.	Daconil Ultrex (before flowering starts), Chipco 26019, Decree, Medallion, Palladium and Pageant	
	Fusarium crown rot	Fusarium solani, F. avenaceum and F. oxysporum	Anytime from plug production to finishing	Avoid overly deep transplanting; control fungus gnats (vectors).	Medallion, Heritage (or Insignia) and Terraguard have been effective on other crops.	- A.R. Chase is president and pathologist of Chase Horticultural Research, Inc. and can be reached at archase@ chaseresearch.net. Margery L. Daughtrey is senior extension associate at Cornell University's Long Island Horticultural Research & Extension Center and can be reached at mld9@ cornell.edu.
	Powdery mildew	Leveillula taurica	Occasionally found late during finishing	Scout regularly and maintain spacing.	Sterol inhibitors (like Eagle/Hoist) and strobilurins (like Compass 0, Cygnus and Insignia)	
	Pythium root rot	<i>Pythium</i> spp.	Plugs and finishing in spring mainly	Avoid excess nitrogen fertilization and irrigation; use a well-drained mix.	Etridiazole (Banrot, Truban, Terrazole), Subdue MAXX (beware of resistance) and Segway	
	Sclerotinia blight	Sclerotinia sclerotiorum	Finishing in spring mainly	Maintain spacing for good air movement.	Chipco 26019, Decree, Medallion and Pageant	
R H	Viruses	INSV and TSWV	Early production to finishing	Control thrips; rogue symptomatic plants.	None available; manage thrips and remove weed/crop reservoirs of virus.	