



# HEALTHY LANDSCAPE PROBLEM SOLVER

## BLACK SPOT on ROSES

**Black Spot** is a fungal disease that causes circular black spots on the surface of leaves and stems. The leaf tissue around the black spot turns yellow and the infected leaves may drop off.

**READ THE LABEL BEFORE BUYING ANY PESTICIDE.** Re-read the label before using, storing or disposing of the pesticide — the label is the law. Following label instructions will help reduce risks to human health and the environment.



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## BLACK SPOT CONTROL OPTIONS

*There are usually several management options for solving any pest or disease problem. Use the non-pesticide approach whenever possible, saving pesticide use as the last line of defense. If a pest is identified at a damaging level, select a control targeted to the problem.*

*This is called "Integrated Pest Management" or "IPM."*

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### GROWING HEALTHY ROSES

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Buy disease-resistant roses and plant in full sun. Prune to remove dead or diseased plant material. Water at the base of the plant to avoid wet leaves which foster fungal diseases. Roses prefer well-drained soil, rich in organic matter. Provide a gradual supply of slow-release nutrients.

Monitoring and early intervention is the key to controlling black spot. Pick infected leaves off the plant as they appear. Prune leaves and stems to create air circulation. Rake up and dispose of fallen leaves (do not compost).

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### ALTERNATIVE CONTROLS

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Product options include: insecticidal soap (formulated for black spot); formulations with sulphur; and formulations with copper. Apply to tops and under side of leaves. Reapply after rain.

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### CHEMICAL CONTROLS

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If you have decided to use a chemical fungicide treatment, read the "Precautionary Statements" on the label before making your selection.

#### Sources of information:

Greg Patchan, Horticulture Agent, MSU Extension - Oakland County.  
Ellis and Bradley, *Natural Insect and Disease Control*, Rodale Press  
Olkowski, et. al., *Common-Sense Pest Control*, Taunton Press

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#### FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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**Oakland County Garden Hotline:** 248/858-0902

**National Pesticide Telecommunications Network (NPTN):** 1-800-858-7378  
(Information about environmental and health effects of specific chemicals)

**Household pesticide disposal:** Call SOCRRA for an appointment: 248/288-5153

**Website:** [healthylandscapes.com](http://healthylandscapes.com)