

POWDERY MILDEW

Mildew is one of the most common fungal diseases found on plants both in the garden and in the greenhouse. The initial symptoms show themselves as small dusty white spots on the foliage, these then grow to form large areas of dusty/powdery white coating across most of the leaves. Eventually mildew will cause yellowing and then browning with the leaves slowly dying.

Mildew is caused mainly by high humidity and lack of ventilation and dry roots. So if you have a greenhouse and have plants suffering from mildew ensure that in the summer doors and windows are open to allow lots of air movement. For outdoor plants, for example gooseberries, make sure you prune them to keep the 'heart' of the plant open to again let the air pass through. Make sure plants are watered well and correctly, making sure that you don't spray the foliage making the problem worse.

If you want to treat a plant then there are several available, for a traditional treatment then sulphur dust is good and a light coating on the foliage will reduce infection. If you have roses then try Fungus Clear, or Roseclear3 which will also treat aphids at the same time.