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Tobacco Blue Mold Control

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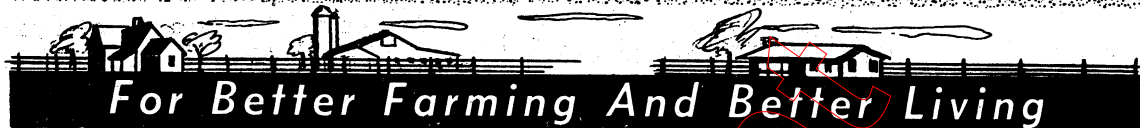
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Control

PLANT DISEASES

Mimeo BP 9-3
March 1956



Tobacco Blue Mold Control

Tobacco blue mold is a plant bed disease that can be expected to occur in Indiana every year. The severity of the disease is influenced greatly by weather conditions. Tobacco seedlings become susceptible to blue mold just as soon as the first leaves are the size of a dime. They remain susceptible throughout their plant bed life. Rainy, muggy weather, with temperatures around 60°F. at night, are ideal for blue mold development. Sunlight and high temperatures will check blue mold, but if the weather again becomes humid and muggy, the disease will recur.

The larger the tobacco plant at the time of the blue mold attack, the better its chance to survive. However, plants damaged and weakened by blue mold should not be transplanted into the field until they have recovered completely and have produced a new set of white roots.

Chemicals Recommended for Blue Mold Control

Fungicides containing Zineb or Ferbam.

For spray treatments:

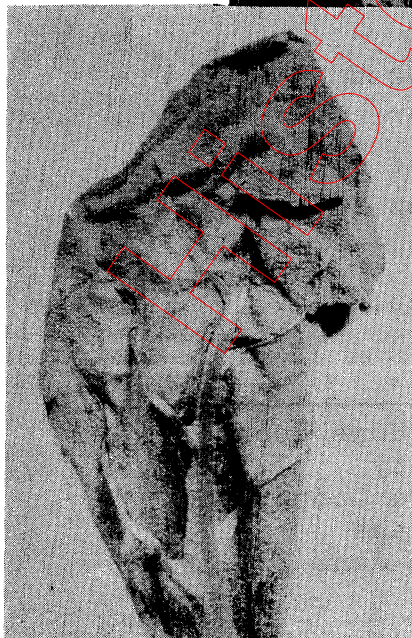
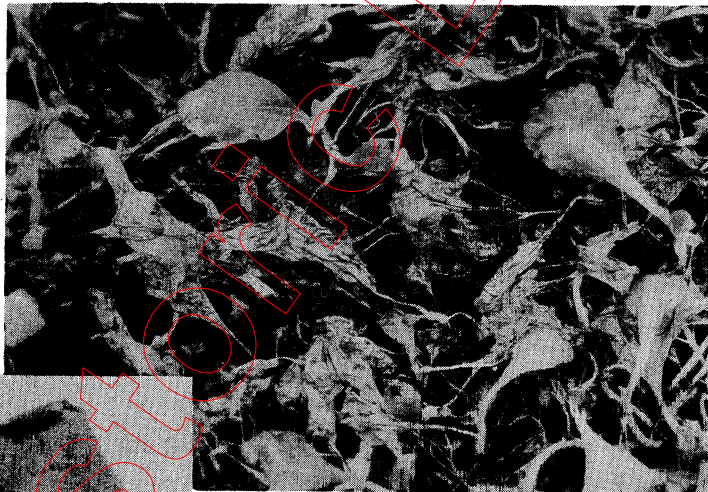
Use fungicides containing 65% Zineb (available under names, such as, Dithane Z-78, Parzate, Thiodow and Ortho Zineb).

or

Use fungicides containing 76% Ferbam (available under trade names, such as, Fermate, Ferradow, Nu-Leaf, Karbam and Carbamate).

For dust treatments:

Use a commercially mixed dust containing 6% Zineb or 10% Ferbam.



Left: Blue mold, showing production of spores on underside of leaf.

Above: Blue mold damage in plant bed.

Amounts of Chemicals Recommended for Spraying

Use 65% Zineb at the rate of 3/4 lb. in 25 gallons of water
(2 1/2 level tablespoonfuls per gallon)
Use 76% Ferbam at the rate of 1 lb. in 25 gallons of water
(5 level tablespoonfuls per gallon)

To mix the above materials properly:

1. Weigh out required amount of chemical.
2. Place in quart fruit jar.
3. Add a little water (not over half full).
4. Screw on fruit jar lid and shake for 1 minute.
5. Add to sprayer, containing correct amount of water.

Time and Frequency of Treatments

Both sprays and dusts for blue mold control are preventatives rather than cures and must start before blue mold appears in the plant bed.

First applications of spray or dust should start when the plants are the size of a dime. Spray or dust twice a week until danger from blue mold is past (8 to 12 applications). Sprays or dusts washed off by rains should be applied again as soon as weather permits. First 3 or 4 sprays may be applied through the plant bed cover. Remove cloth covering for all later sprays. Always remove cover when applying dusts.

Amount of Spray or Dust Needed per 100 Square Yards

	<u>Sprays</u>	<u>Dusts</u>
1st - 4th Application	3-3 1/2 gal.	1 1/2 lb.
5th and 6th "	4 "	2 1/2-3 lb.
All Other Applications	5-6 "	3 1/2-4 lb.

Amount of Materials Needed per Season

65% Zineb -1 1/2 lbs. per 100 sq. yds. of bed
76% Ferbam -2 " " " " " " "
Dust -25 " mixed dust per 100 sq. yd. of bed

Dusting Suggestions:

1. Apply dust early in the morning or evening when the air is still and the plants are wet with dew.
2. Never fill duster more than two-thirds full.
3. Be sure to cover all plants uniformly with dust.