PLANT DISEASES

Greenfly

Plants affected: Pretty much everything!
Symptoms: Infestations of green, pink, cream or brown insects around the softest parts of the plant, usually the tips of shoots and the undersides of young leaves. Greenfly are part of the larger group known as aphids, which also includes blackfly, root aphids and woolly aphids.
Prevention/Control: Wipe greenfly off plants with your fingers or spray plants with soft soap or a pesticide containing pirimicarb.

Whitefly

Plants affected: Primarily a greenhouse pest, especially fuchsias and tomatoes. It can also be bad on outdoor brassicas in summer and autumn.
Symptoms: Clouds of tiny, white triangular moths erupt from the underside of leaves when moved. Black dirty mould may be seen on the leaves.
Prevention/Control: These are resistant to most pesticides so it's best to use organic methods, such as biological control or yellow sticky traps. Plants with yellow flowers, such as French marigolds, can be planted between vulnerable plants to encourage the pests to attack these instead of the vulnerable plants.



Rust

Plants affected: Most rusts are specific to a particular species of plant. Hollyhocks, roses, pelargonium and leeks are popular targets.
Symptoms: Reddish brown spots and powdery pustules that look like rust.
Prevention/Control: Grow resistant varieties and spread hollyhocks from seed every year. Spray with a suitable fungicide, such as one containing mancozeb or penconazale.

Blackspot

Plants affected: Roses.
Symptoms: From mid-summer onwards, irregular rounded black patches appear on rose leaves.
Prevention/Control: Chemicals need to be applied following a strict spray programme to be effective. Dig up and burn badly affected varieties and grow naturally disease resistant types. The worst leaves can be picked off by hand and together with leaves that have fallen on the ground should be burned - good hygiene is important.

Red spider mite

Plants affected: Mainly a problem in greenhouses or on pot plants indoors. It commonly affects azaleas and camiellias.
Symptoms: Pale speckles on the leaves and, if it's a bad infestation, fine webs around the tips of the shoots and on young leaves.
Prevention/Control: Very difficult to deal with, even with chemicals. Best avoided by keeping the air humid, by damping down greenhouses or spraying plants with water. Destroy affected leaves and shoots. Houseplants can be placed on damp pea gravel or similar to keep a reservoir of moisture around the base.

Powdery mildew

Plants affected: Indoor and outdoor plants, particularly roses, and plants that are often too dry.
Symptoms: A dusting of talcum powder over the upper sides of younger leaves.
Prevention/Control: Keep plants well fed and watered. Remove and destroy infected leaves or spray with a suitable fungicide, such as one containing carbendazm or sulphur.

Grey mould

Plants affected: Greenhouse plants.
Symptoms: Fluffy grey patches on dead or dying leaves, flowers and fruits, such as strawberries. In damp weather, small, round translucent spots appear on tomatoes.
Prevention/Control: Common in winter in humid greenhouses, so ventilate to ensure good air circulation. Remove affected leaves. Spray with a suitable fungicide, such as one containing carbendazim.

Bbc.co.uk. 2021. *BBC - Gardening - How to be a gardener - Problem solving - Common pests*. [online] Available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/htbg/module6/common_pests7.shtml> [Accessed 22 September 2021].

LIVEWORKSHEETS



PLANT DISEASES QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Choose the correct answer:

1. Plant disease is any abnormal condition that alters the appearance or function of a plant.
2. Visible effects of disease on plants are called:
3. The parasitic organism that causes a disease is a
4. Choose the plant diseases that affect primarily greenhouse plants:

   Blackspot Whitefly Red spider mite Grey mould Rust
5. Choose the plant diseases that affect roses:

   Greenfly Powdery mildew Blackspot Whitefly Rust
6. It appears on tomatoes when the weather is damp.

   Greenfly Powdery mildew Grey mould
7. When a plant is too dry it can be affected by:

   Greenfly Powdery mildew Grey mould
8. What pathogen causes fine webs around the tips of the shoots and on young leaves?

   Powdery mildew Grey mould Red spider mite
9. What pathogen is most resistant to pesticides:

   Blackspot Rust Whitefly

2. Match each disease with the correct symptoms

a. Grey mould	1. Triangular in shape, they leave honeydew spots on the leaves which finally become black.
b. Rust	2. Reddish brown spots and powdery pustules that look like oxidation.
c. Whitefly	3. Grey lesions appear on leaves, fruits, stems and flowers, especially in damp atmospheres.
d. Red spider mite	4. White and yellow dots appear on the leaves which turn completely yellow, fine webs around the tips of the shoots and on young leaves.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3. Identify the pictures with the control method described.

1	2	3	4
			
A	**B**	**C**	**D**
These are resistant to most pesticides so it's best to use organic methods, such as biological control or yellow sticky traps.	Keep plants well fed and watered. Remove and destroy infected leaves or spray with a suitable fungicide, such as one containing carbendazm or sulphur	Spray with a suitable fungicide, such as one containing mancozeb or penconazale.	Chemicals need to be applied following a strict spray programme to be effective. The worst leaves can be picked off by hand and together with leaves that have fallen on the ground should be burned - good hygiene is important.

4. Match the English symptoms with the equivalent Spanish translation:

1. Yellowing leaves	Polvo de talco blanco
2. Dusting of talcum powder	Pústulas polvorientas
3. White triangular moths	Polillas triangulares blancas
4. Powdery pustules	Hojas amarillentas
5. Fluffy grey patches	Motas pálidas
6. Pale speckles	Manchas grises polvorientas
7. Black patches	Manchas negras

[1]https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Oidio_Plantas.jpg [Accessed 23 September 2021].
[2] https://www.wikihow.com/Get-Rid-of-the-Whitefly#/Image:Get-Rid-of-the-Whitefly-Step-14-Version-4.jpg [Accessed 22 September 2021].
[3] Fao.org. 2021. [online] Available at: <http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/AGRO_Noticias/img/7579710588_9e3a643b3b_z.jpg> [Accessed 22 September 2021].
[4] https://www.bbc.co.uk/gardening/htbg/module6/common_diseases2.shtml [Accessed 22 September 2021].

LIVEWORKSHEETS