

Common Diseases of Garden Vegetables

Crop	Disease	Symptoms
Alliums (Garlic, Leek, Onion)	Downy Mildew	Early symptoms are sunken spots on leaves; later, a purplish mold develops over spots
	Pink Rot	Roots turn pinkish or red, eventually rot; plant is stunted with wilted tops
	Smut	Black spots on leaves and between the sections of the bulbs; young plants may have twisted leaves; common in northern regions
Asparagus	Asparagus Rust	Reddish-yellow spots on stems, branches; gradually entire plant yellows, weakens, and eventually dies
	Fusarium Wilt	Wilted, stunted spears with brownish surface color
Bean, Lima	Bacterial Spot	Reddish-brown lesions on stem leaves, and pods; young diseased pods may fall from plant
	Downy Mildew	Plants are mottled with white, fuzzy fungus strands on them.
Bean, Snap	Anthracnose	Dark red, sunken spots on leaves and stems; pinkish-red spots on pods; seeds are often black
	Bacterial Blight	Large brown blotches on leaves, possibly bordered with yellow or red; water-soaked spots on pods; seed may be discolored
	Mosaic Rust	Leaves crinkled with mottled areas; pods may be rough misshapen Many small reddish-orange to brown spore masses on leaves and possibly stem; leaves rapidly yellow dry up, and drop
Beet	Leaf Spot	Small, round, tan to brown spots on leaves and stems; later leaves turn yellow and drop
Brassicas (Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Turnip)	Black Rot	Leaves yellow, veins become black; plant becomes stunted and heads of cabbage, cauliflower, or Brussels sprouts are one-sided or nonexistent; stem cross section shows a brown, woody ring
Carrot	Leaf Blight	Yellow to whitish spots on leaves; girdling of roots; water-soaked spots or lesions on roots
	Root-Knot Nematode	Small galls on lateral rootlets; pimple-sized swellings on main root; plants may be yellow and stunted
Celery	Blights (Early and Late)	Greenish or water-soaked spots on leaves; sunken lesions possible on stalks; growth may be visible in wet weather
	Fusarium Wilt (Celery Yellows)	Reddish tissue on stalks and leaves; yellowing of foliage
	Pink Rot	Water-soaked spots on stalks; bitter-tasting, rotted stems; damping-off may occur in an infected seedbed
Corn	Bacterial Wilt	Pale, streaked leaves; yellow, sticky substance exudes from a cut stem
	Corn Smut	Large galls develop on stalk, ears, and roots; later, grayish galls blacken and release spores; ripened spores appear oily or powdery
Cucurbits (Cucumber, Pumpkin, Squash)	Anthracnose	Small, dark spots on leaves; eventually spots grow together and entire leaf is destroyed; fruit may blacken and drop; problem develops in warm, moist conditions
	Bacterial Wilt	Leaves wilt quickly, possibly while still green; white, sticky material might be seen when a stem is cut
	Downy Mildew Mosaic	Yellow to purplish spots start on leaves, gradually cover entire plant Leaves of cucumber and squash develop rough, mottled surface; cucumber fruit may be entirely white; plant may be stunted and yellow in several places

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	Powdery Mildew	Round, white spots on undersides of leaves; eventually entire leaf is covered with powder; fruits ripen prematurely and have poor flavor and texture
	Scab	Dark spots on fruit of cucumber and pumpkin; leaves may have water spots and stems may have shallow lesions; sap oozes from fruits, then greenish mold develops
Eggplant	Fruit Rot	Brownish spots on leaves; damage is particularly bad during wet weather when fruit may develop small, tannish cankers which later rot
	Verticillium Wilt	Yellowing of foliage and gradual defoliation; plants may become stunted
Pea	Ascochyta Blight	Leaves shrivel and die; roots and lower stems may blacken and rot; disease overwinters on plant debris
	Bacterial Blight	Brownish or yellow blotches form on leaves and pods; stems may turn purplish; leaves eventually yellow
	Powdery Mildew	Stems, leaves, and pods dusted with white powdery mold; black specks appear later in the season; plants are stunted and vines shriveled
	Root Rot	Yellowed, gangly plants with rotting roots and lower stems; plant may die before pods form
Pepper	Anthracnose	Dark, round spots on fruit; entire pepper may rot or dry up; serious problem particularly in southern or central regions
	Bacterial Spot	In dry areas, leaves develop yellowish spots with darker margins; older leaves eventually drop
Potato	Blackleg	In warm, moist climates, plants become stunted and leaves yellow and roll; stem base develops brown, rotted areas on the inside; inside of tubers shows darkened blotches and a soft rot that worsens during storage
	Early Blight	Spots develop in rings on leaves; eventually leaves may die; tubers develop puckered skin and shallow rough lesions; mold may result
	Mosaic	Mottled, crinkled foliage; brown specks appear on tubers, and plants may droop and die prematurely
	Rhizoctonia	Dark brown cankers appear on young sprouts; mature stalks may become brown; tubers are covered with hard, black "scurfs"; tubers may also be roughened in a cross-patched pattern
	Verticillium Wilt	Late in season, older leaves yellow; affected vines die prematurely; stem tissue discolors from base; tubers may be pinkish
Spinach (also Swiss Chard)	Blight	Yellowish, curled leaves; stunted leaves and plants
	Downy Mildew	In moist areas, leaves develop yellow spots with fuzzy, purplish growth beneath
Sweet Potato	Black Rot	Small, round, brown spots on potato tubers; stem may also show decay
	Soft Rot	Soft, watery rot on stored tubers
	Stem Rot	Young infected plants may die after trans-planting; survivors develop bright yellow leaves, and later stems rot; harvest is of poor quality
Tomato	Anthracnose	Fruits develop small, round, water-soaked spots; later, fruits darken and rot
	Blights (Early and Late)	Irregular, water-soaked spots may develop on leaves; plant becomes partly defoliated; seedlings may girdle; stem end of fruit becomes grayish-green; blossoms or young fruits may drop
	Fusarium Wilt	Leaves yellow and droop; cross section of stem shows brownish liquid within; fruit usually decays and drops
	Mosaic	Mottled leaves; young leaves are bunched or puckered; plants are stunted; yield is reduced; in some types of mosaic, fruit is also mottled