

REDUCING STORAGE ROT IN CANNA RHIZOMES

A trial to investigate practices for reducing storage rot in canna rhizomes was conducted in Capitola during the winter and spring of 1965.

REDUCING STORAGE ROT IN CANNA RHIZOMES (continued)

Brown Bulb Ranch, Farm Advisor Allen Wilson, and Dr. Robert Raabe cooperated in this trial. Three practices looked promising in reducing rot:

1. Rhizomes which had normal air drying had less rot than those dried for 8 hours in an 85° bulb dryer.

2. Rhizomes stored in a closed, cool, dry shed (with a little heating to dry the air) had less rot than those stored in either a heated greenhouse or an open, unheated shed.

3. Rhizomes soaked for 10 minutes in 5 of the 10 fungicides tested had less rot than those not treated. Fungicides and rates were: Arasan - 1250 and 2500 ppm; Nurelle - 417 and 625 ppm; Difolatan - 100 ppm; Demosan - 500 ppm; and sodium hypochlorite (Chlorox) 1 to 10 dilution. Sodium hypochlorite also bleached the rhizomes, giving them a more attractive appearance. These are test results and not recommendations for use.

Canna rhizomes deteriorate rapidly when stored for even short periods of time. The practices described show promise of slowing down this deterioration. These practices only reduced the extent of rotting. Storage should be avoided whenever possible.