

# IMPORTANCE OF COVERAGE WHEN APPLYING GROWTH RETARDANT A-REST®

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A sufficient volume of spray is important when applying A-Rest®. This was demonstrated by an experiment with eight azalea varieties. The plants had been pruned and new shoot growth was approximately ¼ inch long at the time of treatment (May 15, 1975). The growth-regulator application was made on the morning of a cloudy day at a temperature of 65°F.

A spray of one part A-Rest® and one part water was applied at 30 psi pressure from a small sprayer with a Tee-jet® 650050 nozzle. Different dosages were achieved by varying the time the spray was directed on to the plants (see table).

Representative plants of the varieties 'Mission Bells' and 'Constance' are shown in figures 1 and 2. Some of the shoots were not retarded in the two low-dosage treatments because apparently they were not contacted by the spray during application; the retarded

shoots appeared the same as those retarded by higher dosages.

This study indicates that sufficient spray must be applied to contact all shoots in order to obtain uniform retardation.

RETARDATION OF AZALEA GROWTH RESULTING FROM DIFFERENT A-REST® DOSAGES

Treatment number	Spray time (sec./plant)	Dosage (mg/plant)	Results
1	0	0	Variable growth
2	0.5	0.167	Variable growth; some shoots retarded
3	1.0	0.33	Variable growth; some shoots retarded
4	2.0	0.66	All shoots retarded
5	4.0	1.32	All shoots retarded

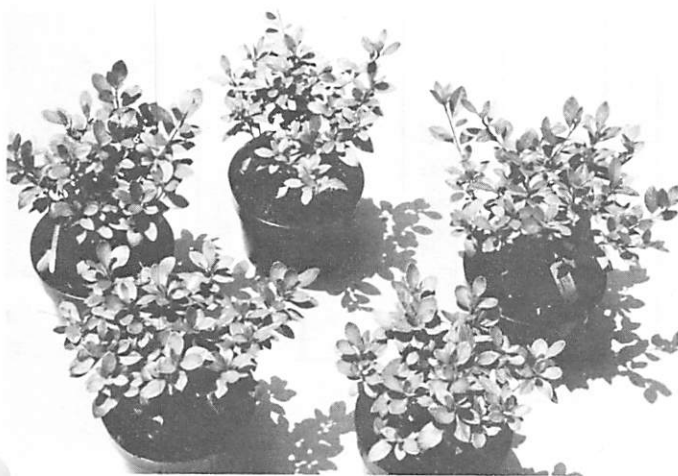


Fig. 1. Influence of varying length of spray time on effectiveness of growth retardant on 'Mission Bells' azalea. Treatment times per plant were, left to right: top row — 1 second, 0.5 second, and 0 second (control); bottom row — 2 seconds and 4 seconds.



Fig. 2. Influence of varying length of spray time on effectiveness of growth retardant on 'Constance' azalea. Treatment times per plant were, left to right: top row — 1 second, 0.5 second, and 0 second (control); bottom row — 2 seconds and 4 seconds.