

▶ ROSE SESSION - J. G. Seeley, Moderator

John Mastalerz - Reporter

- Q. Could some form of bromine fumigation be used for the control of powdery mildew?
- A. Dr. Dimock - While no work has been done with bromine and powdery mildew control, it is toxic to fungi and probably could be used if an airtight house were possible or if the wind velocity were less than five miles per hour. The technical difficulties in containing the bromine vapors are numerous.
- Q. Is it possible to completely eliminate powdery mildew in the greenhouse?
- A. Dr. Dimock - Powdery mildew is a surface fungus and therefore eradication methods for controlling the fungus can be applied. It is one of the few organisms that can be controlled in this way.
- Q. Are there more than one species of powdery mildew on roses?

- A. Dr. Dimock - There seems to be only one species and no strains of mildew attacking roses.
- Q. Can chlorine gas or chlorine water be used in syringing water for the control of mildew?
- A. Dr. Dimock - No.
- Q. Is there any systemic action of Karathane in the control of powdery mildew?
- A. Dr. Dimock - There seem to be indications that some residual action of the chemical is present but whether any systemic action against mildew occurs is not supported with data.
- Q. Will Karathane be available on the market?
- A. Dr. Dimock - There seems to be little likelihood that the material will be produced commercially as the market does not appear to be large enough. However, the patent may be licensed to another manufacturer and become available to the growers for mildew control.
- Q. After dry storage, should the bottom of the stems be cut before shipment?
- A. Dr. C. W. Fischer - In the experimental work it has been a practice of making a bottom cut before placing in water. I don't know whether it is necessary or not.
- Q. Do roses produce enough ethylene to gas themselves?
- A. Dr. C. W. Fischer - No, however, do not store them with other ethylene producers such as Callas or apples. Diseased flower material is also an ethylene producer.
- Q. If stems stored in water overnight turn black, what can be done to prevent this?
- A. Dr. John G. Seeley - Wash the insides of the cans with hot water or red lead the cans once a year to avoid trouble.
- Q. Before marketing, are the roses placed in a box of a higher temperature than 32°F?
- A. Harold B. Brookins - Yes, the roses are moved to a 42-45°F box before they are packed and shipped. It is also advised to use a separate box for long-time storage and one for everyday storage.
- Q. Which method of dilution is best for determining soluble salts in the greenhouse?
- A. Dr. Seeley - Either the 1:2 or the 1:5 dilution is satisfactory. One should know which dilution has been used in interpreting results.

Q. How are soluble salts removed from the soil?

A. Dr. Seeley - Continuous heavy watering will leach them from the soil. By maintaining a high moisture content, the salts remain in a more dilute condition and are not as harmful. Soil preparation with good drainage is necessary so that heavy watering can be done with safety.