

SCORCH ON 'ACE' LILIES

Jay S. Koths
Extension Floriculturist

Scorch used to be a problem on 'Croft' lilies. The problem was averted by shifting to 'Ace' which now frequently exhibits a similar "scorch."

Don Juchartz, Extension Director of Wayne County, MI, summarized the situation concisely in Flower News 30(21):46, 50 (5/22/76) as follows:

- (1) If severe, the problem had been observed in more than one year
- (2) Only 'Ace' was affected, not 'Nellie White'
- (3) All growers were using perlite in their soil mix
- (4) Most severe cases were associated with the use of city water and
- (5) High phosphorus levels
- (6) Symptoms appeared 35 days before crop finish and at 14 days the crop was almost always a disaster.

Don explains that members of the lily family are often sensitive to high fluoride and phosphate levels. Perlite, superphosphate and fluoridated city water supplies all provide fluoride. He suggests that, if you have experienced scorch on 'Ace,' that you might:

- (1) Switch to 'Nellie White'
- (2) Substitute calcined clay (Turface, LuSoil) for perlite
- (3) Do not use superphosphate (CT recommendations have cautioned this for many years)
- (4) Keep soil pH above 6.5
- (5) Use nonfluoridated water if possible.

So, if you noticed scorch on 'Ace' lilies last spring, be especially careful to avoid the contributing factors mentioned above. It could be worse next year.

New England Greenhouse Conference

1976

Coordinator

Prof. Charles Williams
Plant Science Dept.
University of New Hampshire
Durham, N.H. 03824

Coordinator-Elect

Dr. Roy Judd
The Univ. of Conn.

Grower Associations:

Conn. Florists Assn.
Mr. Glenn Spaulding
Me. State Florists Assn.
Mr. Raymond Roak
Mass. Flower Grs. Assn.
Mr. Reginald Carey Jr.
N. E. Carnation Grs. Assn.
Mr. Theodore Piers
N. E. Vegetable Grs. Assn.
Prof. Robert Young
N. H. Plant Grs. Assn.
Mr. Augustine Lawlor
Vermont Plantsmen's Assn.
Mr. Richard Salter

The Cooperative

Extension Services of:

CONNECTICUT

Dr. Jay Koths

MAINE

Prof. Lyle Littlefield

MASSACHUSETTS

Prof. Frank Campbell

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Dr. Otho Wells

RHODE ISLAND

Dr. Richard Shaw

VERMONT

Dr. Norman Pellett

Committee Chairman

House

Mr. William Bennett

Decorations

Mr. Phillips Brown

Finance

Mr. Charles Barr

Hospitality

Mr. Glenn Spaulding

Registration

Dr. Richard Ashley

Publicity

Dr. Jay Koths

Program

Dr. Norman Pellett

Trade Fair

Mr. Kim Miller and

Mr. Peter Seale