

Rust



Rust is caused by several species of fungal diseases. They affect a wide variety of crops including asparagus, beans, corn, onion and spinach.

- Rust usually starts out as yellow or whitish spots on the top sides of the leaves. The distinctive bright reddish or yellowish spores that give the plant its name appear later, as pustules on the undersides of the leaves.

- The leaves commonly turn yellow, the plant grows slowly and becomes stunted, and in severe cases it eventually dies.

As with all fungi, rust is spread by wind borne spores and can travel long distances.

- Remove infected leaves and crop debris to minimize local sources of infection.
- As much as practical, avoid spreading the microscopic spores while removing infected plant material. Move it as little and as slowly as practical.

Avoid getting foliage wet, and make sure air circulation is good.

- To minimize the effects of the disease keep the plants well fed and watered.
- Avoid giving plants too much nitrogen