

What is Cucurbit Powdery Mildew?

Cucurbit Powdery Mildew is caused predominantly by *Podosphaera xanthii*.

- ❖ Decreases yields by reducing the number and/or size of fruit, as well as shortening the harvest period.
- ❖ Disease can cause defoliation leading to unmarketable fruit through sunburn, prematurely ripe, and other imperfections.
- ❖ The stress from powdery mildew can increase susceptibility to other disease such as gummy stem blight.

↔ Dispersed by wind ↔

Favorable conditions:

- Dense canopies
- Low light intensity
- High relative humidity
- Dry conditions



Where to scout:

- Affects older plants first
- Found first on:
 - Crown leaves
 - Shaded lower leaves
 - Leaf undersurfaces
- Yellow spots may form on the upper leaf surface opposite powdery mildew colonies.

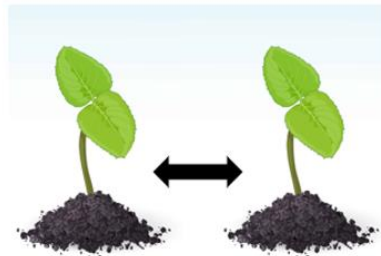
Powdery mildew on acorn squash

Powdery Mildew is best managed with an integrated program

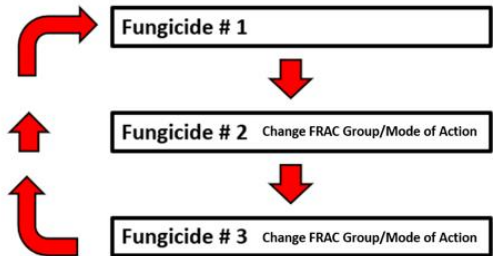
Plant Resistant Varieties



Adequate Plant Spacing



Fungicide Rotation



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The Current Cucurbit