

## Common Canker

Common canker occurs primarily as a result of a wound such as grafting, pruning or de-eying and is primarily confined to rose canes. It is caused by the fungus *Coniothyrium fuckelii*.



### SYMPTOMS

This fungus creates sunken, reddish-brown cankers or lesions anywhere rose canes are wounded. They progress into tan cankers that can reach 1-inch long in size and often girdle canes. Advanced cankers interrupt transportation of water and nutrients from the roots to upper stems, leaves and flowers. Leaves above the infection may turn yellow, then dried and brown. When the fungal fruiting bodies form, they are black and scattered like pepper grains throughout the dead area.

### CULTURAL CONTROL

Avoid wounding canes when they cannot heal quickly. Spacing plants to allow good airflow promotes rapid drying and healing. Remove infected canes below the node of the canker. Clean pruning tools between cuts when removing stems with cankers with a quaternary ammonium disinfectant and regularly clean up fallen plant debris.

### FUNGICIDES FOR CONTROL

The table below is a summary of a series of trials on common canker on rose.

Treatment	Rate/100 gal	Mean
Chipco 26019	16 oz	none-very good
Compass O	4 oz	very good-excellent
Daconil Ultrex	22.4 oz	excellent
Heritage	4 oz	good
Insignia	16 oz	none-very good
Medallion	4 oz	very good
Pageant intrinsic	18.5 oz	excellent
Phyton 27	25 oz	none-some

The most effective fungicides were Daconil Ultrex and two strobilurin fungicides (Compass O and Pageant Intrinsic). Medallion was also very effective. Extreme variability in efficacy was seen with Chipco 26019 50WP, Insignia and



Phyton 27 making their use less reliable.

Sanitation and pruning are more likely to be effective than using fungicides after infection occurs. Consider spraying effective fungicides following a thorough examination and pruning to remove cankers and dieback.