

# Control Apple Scab & Cedar Apple Rust

For Better Fruit Harvests



## The Diseases

Apple scab is one of the more common diseases of apples and crabapples in Nebraska. It is caused by a fungus that spends the winter in infested leaves on the ground or on stems and branches of the tree. Spring rains and wind discharges the spores into the air and infest new leaves. The first visible symptoms are small, discrete, olive to greenish-black lesions on the undersides of leaves. Leaves with large numbers of lesions often become distorted, turn yellow, show dead or dying tissue, and drop prematurely from the tree. Foliage that develops later in the season will not be affected.

## Control Apple Scab Fungus

Use Fertilome Liquid Systemic Fungicide, Immunox, Systemic Infuse, and liquid Copper. Six or more sprays are recommended at 7-10 day intervals. If it rains within 6 hours of spraying, you should re-spray.

## Application Steps

1. First application spray when flower buds are nestled tightly against the branch. There may be tiny leaves on the tree at this stage.
2. Apply second application when flower buds have developed short stems and the buds have separated to resemble a lollipop.
3. Apply third application when 80% of the flower blossoms have dropped from the tree.
4. Repeat seven to ten days later.
5. Repeat seven to ten days later.
6. Repeat seven to ten days later. If cold, moist, and humid weather persist, continue spraying until the weather warms and rains subsides.

## Control Cedar Apple Rust:

Cedar apple rust occurs whenever edible apples, flowering crabapples, or hawthorns are grown in close proximity to cedar trees. The cycle begins when corky, brown galls form on cedar trees in the fall. After the spring rains, the woody galls form orange projections from which fungus spores are released. They are blown to the apple trees where the spores

infect leaves, fruit, and occasionally twigs. The spore production and release are favored by wet weather in April and May. The yellow-orange spots develop first on the upper surfaces of the leaves. Later, cup-shaped structures are produced on the underside of the leaf directly below the upper surface lesions. In some cases, the rust may form elongated swollen cankers on the current season's growth which may girdle twigs and cause branch die back. Fungicides Recommended to Control Cedar Apple Rust: Fertilome Liquid Systemic Fungicide, Immunox, Systemic Infuse, and Liquid Copper. Correct timing is critical since the fungicides are preventive and will not cure an established infection. Five or more sprays are recommended to ensure adequate protection.

## Application Steps

1. At flower bud break of crabapples approximately mid-April. On Hawthorns only tiny leaves may be present.
2. When 80% of the flower petals have dropped from crabapples. Spray Hawthorns at the same time using crabapple as your guide.
3. Repeat in five to seven day.
4. Repeat in five to seven days.
5. Repeat seven to ten days later. If cold, moist, and humid weather persist, continue spraying until the weather warms and rains subsides.



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