

ALFALFA CROP –DISEASES AND CONTROL TECHNIQUES

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SUMMARY

Alfalfa crop is considered queen of forage plants, but if we want to get a good production we need to respect all the techniques.

Also we need to know all diseases, pests and prevention techniques. The attack of pathogens can reduce the production with over 40%.

The most important diseases which produce damage on alfalfa crop are: Alfalfa mosaic virus or Lucerne mosaic virus, Downy mildew of Lucerne - *Peronospora aestivalis*, Alfalfa powdery mildews - *Erysiphe communis* Grew. *E. medicaginis* Dietr., Alfalfa leaf spot *Pseudopeziza medicaginis* Sacc., Alfalfa yellow leaf spot- *Pseudopeziza josenii* Nannf., *f.c.* *Sporonema phacidioides* Desm., Alfalfa rust-*Uromyces striatus* Schroter, Alfalfa phomosis - *Phoma melaena* Mont. et Dur.

To gain high productions on alfalfa cultures are recommended the following measures: introducing rotation of culture with annual plants especially cereals, choosing optimal seeding densities; to use healthy certified seed callousness sorts; destroying of spontaneous leguminous; monitories and to fight against of vector insects; to harvest (mowing) and destruction of ill plants diminishes otherwise the attack expand.

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