

QUESTION BOX

Moderated by Ralph Shugert and Bruce Briggs

QUESTION: Is there a safe, labeled herbicide I can use with container-grown *Phlox paniculata*? I have used Rout, OH II, Regal 0-0, etc. and experienced phytotoxicity.

HARLAN HAMERNIK: We do not use it but Ohio state University recommends Treflan as the only one.

BILL BARNES: In previous work at a nursery I worked at they used a mixture of Treflan and Pennant.

BRIAN GILSON: We have used Ronstar G and Snapshot PG.

QUESTION FOR KEN ROE: What, if any, herbicide program do you have for the grasses, *Hemerocallis*, and *Hosta* we saw on the tour?

KEN ROE: We use Snapshot TG.

QUESTION: Are there plants other than rye grass useful for allelopathic weed control in liners?

BILL BARNES: At Rodale they are using dwarf rape that has been grown and tilled in three times. It resulted in reduced growth of the corn that was planted in it and also eliminated weed seed germination.

JEFF ILES: Corn gluten meal has suppressive properties from work done at Iowa State University.

QUESTION: Does anyone have a chemical control for liverwort and mosses?

BILL BARNES: The use of Manzate fungicide will inhibit them. It is the presence of the manganese ion that will inhibit spore growth; it will not inhibit growth once they have germinated. Ronstar G will work on plants that are growing.

DAVE BAKKER: Treflan G will work. We never use it at greater than 1 lb a.i. acre⁻¹.

CHARLES TUBESING: When I was in British Columbia there was a product called Demoss (produced by Mycogen formally Safers) that was used to remove moss.

QUESTION: I have had sporadic results with softwood cuttings of *Prunus Xcistena*. If I go to hardwood propagation this year what do I have to look for? Is callus, hormone, length or caliper of wood important?

GARY MEIVOGAL: I have had varying results. I take the cuttings in mid December cut to 6 in., wound on one side, dipping them in 5000 ppm IBA, placing them in a flat, bottom up, and covering them with a moist sphagnum moss. Precallus

in warm moist heat for 4 weeks and sticking them in a pine bark and peat mix (2 : 1, v/v) which has proven best.

DAVE BAKKER: We have done it according to the method described by Howard at East Malling in England and presented to this Society. After precallusing at close to 32F we treat the bases with a gel containing a fungicide and plant in the field. We now are doing softwood because of losses.

QUESTION FOR ROGER COGGESHALL: Do you root white flowering French hybrid *Syringa* cultivars differently? I have failed badly the past 5 years with white cultivars.

ROGER COGGESHALL: No we do not treat them any differently. There may be cultivar differences and I would suggest that you select them first and from the youngest growth.

QUESTION FOR DR. STOLTZ: Can you propagate ginseng asexually?

LEN STOLTZ: No.

QUESTION: Is anyone growing (and pleased with) any clones of *Hydrangea arborescens* other than 'Annabelle'?

CHARLES TUBESING: *Hydrangea arborescens* ssp. *radiata* has been grown and has the ray flowers like the species.

BILL BARNES: At Winterthur Garden I have seen 'Grandiflora' with flower clusters white and containing numerous sterile florets. The plant tends to spread by suckers but the flowers do not flop like 'Annabelle'.

QUESTION: Does anyone have problems growing on softwood cuttings of *Acer palmatum* cultivars and pink dogwood? I have experienced losses of 1- and 2-gal containers over the winter even though the plants are protected with an inflated double-layer polyhouse. Could this be herbicide damage from OH II applied in fall 2 to 3 weeks before covering for the winter?

BRUCE BRIGGS: Research has indicated that it is a lack of stored food. Withhold nitrogen fertilizer after they have rooted. You might also try to store rooted cuttings in a cooler until spring.