

†EFFECTS OF PLANT GROWTH REGULATORS ON THE INCIDENCE OF
POWDERY MILDEW ON *RUDBECKIA* AND *PHLOX*

S. Hill* and J. Latimer

Department of Horticulture, Virginia Tech, 301 Saunders Hall, Blacksburg,
Virginia 24061 USA

Actively growing *Rudbeckia hirta* 'Indian Summer' and *Phlox paniculata* 'Blue Boy' plants were sprayed with seven growth regulator treatments: 10,000 ppm B-Nine (daminozide) applied twice; 160 ppm Bonzi or Piccolo (paclobutrazol); 60 ppm Topflor (flurprimidol); 60 ppm Sumagic (uniconazole); 4000 ppm Cycocel (chlormequat) on *Phlox* only; two applications of a tank mix of B-Nine/Cycocel at a rate of 7500/1500 ppm; and an untreated control. Two weeks following the first treatment, plants were inoculated with powdery mildew and disease incidence was monitored using the Horsfall-Barratt Scale for assessing disease. At the termination of the experiment (7 wk after treatment), plants treated with Bonzi and Piccolo had significantly less disease than all other treatments on both crops. Cycocel, the tank mix, and Sumagic treatments resulted in significant height control compared to controls on *Phlox*. *Rudbeckia* heights were not significantly different from control.