

are favorable for its development. A cool wet period is favorable to the development of scab in those localities where it is established. The disease attacks only young and tender growth, so the period of susceptibility of foliage and fruit probably is short. The fruit may become infected from the time the bloom drops until six or eight weeks later, but the principal injury is done during the first week or two after the bloom drops.

APPEARANCE

The disease forms definite spots or patches on the young, tender leaves and shoots, and severe attacks may cause the affected leaves to curl and become distorted. Infection takes place only on young tender growth and as the leaf tissue hardens it becomes immune to the disease. However, the older leaves frequently will be found bearing scab spots that were formed when the tissue was young. The spots are generally small, circular to irregular in outline and vary from one-sixteenth to one-eighth of an inch or more in diameter. They are purplish brown to dark in color and may appear scattered over the surface or several may grow together to form irregular areas. The spots penetrate the leaf tissue and become visible on both sides of the leaf. They are usually more prominent on the upper surface of the leaf, in which case the under surface of the spot may be slightly bulged and marked by a purplish discoloration. The centers of the older spots are composed of dry, dead cells, more or less spongy and brownish in color. Sometimes the dead central tissue falls away, leaving a small hole in the leaf. In the early stages of development the surfaces of the spots may show a whitish growth. As the spots grow older their surfaces become brown or black, due to the invasion of other fungi.

On the young shoots, twigs and leaf petioles the spots appear darker and more elevated. They are more or less oval in shape with comparatively smooth surfaces and in general outline may resemble one of the soft scale insects.

On the fruit occurs the same oval-shaped, raised type of spot that is found on the twigs. The spots may be scattered or clustered together to form an irregular, scabby mass. Severe infections on fruit frequently cause a roughened or russet appearance similar to the disease on grapefruit known as scab. In this case the markings are light brown in color. The appearance is marred and fruit badly attacked is undersized and of irregular shape.