
CULTURAL NOTE

This concerns my [Jim Thornton's] article on "Azalea Pest and Problems" (**THE AZALEAN**, 16(4), December 1994) specifically, Ovuline petal blight (*Ovulinia azalea*).

Having neglected to control this problem over the years I was forced to do something in the Spring of 1995, and that something was to get out the fungicide.

If you recall, the article mentioned several products that are available and produce good results, including a Green Light product called Fung-Away® Systemic Fungicide in eight and sixteen ounce liquid bottles for control of certain diseases on flowers, plants, shrubs and trees. Likewise, another liquid, quart size container, Fung-Away® Systemic Lawn Spray for control of diseases in turf areas. Finally, Fung-Away® granule form in eight-pound bags, again for various lawn type problems.

The chemical in Fung-Away®, 1-(4-chlorophenoxy)-3,3-dimethyl-1-(H-1,2,4-triazol-1-yl)-2-butanone = 5%, aka triadimephon and of course, those infamous "inert ingredients" = 95%.

Wouldn't you like to have the patent on "Inert Ingredients". Think about it!

Now as a side note, the Fung-Away® bag label notes that it contains Bayleton®, so, in referring to my handy-dandy Georgia Pest Control Handbook, Fungicide Table 1, I found this note regarding Fung-Away®: This systemic fungicide is identical to Bayleton®. (The liquid Fung-Away® container labels also show they contain Bayleton®, as much as 0.88%.)

So there! It looks as if we use any product with it's active ingredient Bayleton®, then it has to be "good stuff"!

Please note this chemical was listed in **THE AZALEAN** article as the most preferred to use in fighting petal blight but seemed to be hard to find.

Anyway, I used the granule form applied by hand, rather heavy over the "hot" spots, and generally, over all other beds. It was applied sometime in February and I'm sorry I didn't record exactly what the weather was like back then but I'd probably be safe to say it was normal Atlanta weather. Normal meaning, alternating from freezing to warm balmy spring-like days, every other few days, with rain in between. Probably a good year for good ole *Ovulinia azalea*! □

REFERENCE:

- (1) 1993 *Georgia Pest Control Handbook*, Fungicide Table 1, p 320-322.

Contributed by Jim Thornton

"AN AZALEAPHILE SALUTE"

(Azaleaphile meaning lover of azaleas).

Bob Stewart
Springfield, VA

We have known Bob personally for only a year. However, we've known of his name for many years. His name is next to numerous color photos chosen by Fred Galle to enhance his famous azalea book, but Bob would be too modest to mention that. Although he has no formal horticultural training, Bob is an excellent hybridizer and grower of many lovely azalea varieties. He has a hobbyist's eye for beauty and a critical eye for duplication, and thus, he chooses his named varieties with thoughtful discrimination.

Because he eschews the social functions of the azalea convention, his face is not a familiar one to many attendees. (Come on, Bob, let's admire azaleas at the Dallas Convention next year!!). Bob, has provided potted plants for many fund raising occasions, e.g., our last convention, and has judged sundry azalea shows for many years.

Although Bob is quiet and reserved, he is very friendly and generous with his time and knowledge. He is one of the most helpful persons we've met on our collecting rounds, either in or out of the Society. Bob Stewart is our choice for THE AZALEAPHILE SALUTE of the Quarter. □

Contributed by:
AZALEA SUNSET
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