

Plant Pests: Viruses

Disease

plant pathogens which cause harm to plants

Living Agents

organisms such as fungi, bacteria and viruses

Non-living Agents

non-living organisms such as weather conditions, air pollution and toxic chemicals

Pathogens

disease producing agents which cause harm to other organisms

Microorganisms

single-celled organisms including viruses, fungi and bacteria

Fungi

taxonomic kingdom which includes yeast, molds and smuts

Bacteria

single celled or non-cellular microorganisms which lack chlorophyll and reproduce by fission

Viruses

small, infectious particles composed of a protein coat and a nucleic acid

Molds

fungus which produce a growth on the surface of damp and decaying organic matter

Bacterial Diseases

diseases in plants caused by bacteria

Fungicides

any agent which destroys or prevents the growth of fungi

Stomata

small openings on the surface of leaves which allow for gases and water to pass in and out of leaves

Blights

cause discoloration, wilting and death in plants

Wilting

process of plants drooping or shriveling due to lack of water

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Nucleic Acids

groups of macromolecules which carry genetic information to control all cell functions; in the form of DNA and various forms of RNA

Petiole

smaller stem which attaches a leaf to the main stem

Crop Rotation

practice of growing different crops on the same land over a period of several growing seasons; aids in insect control and preservation of soil quality; example: growing corn for two years, then switching to soybeans on the same land

Spores

single celled reproductive structure of non-flowering plants, fungi and bacteria which develop into a new individual without sexual fusion

Floating Row Cover

material used to cover plants, to protect the plants from harmful insects, while allowing plants to breathe and absorb moisture and sunlight