

## General Information

Once we can depend on the milder weather with temperatures staying above freezing, it is time to start some very important projects in the garden. This is particularly true for those who have established fruit trees such as apples, peaches and pears in the garden, or possibly a bed of roses.

## What Product Do I Use?

Dormant oil spray and lime sulphur, sold together as a kit should be applied before the leaf buds begin to break or open, but only while the temperature will be staying above freezing for 3 – 4 hours, to allow for thorough drying. The dormant oil spray kills over wintering *aphids*, *spider mites*, *scale*, *pear psylla* and some other insects on *fruit trees*, *roses* and some *ornamental shrubs*. “Scale” insects are those immobile, bump-like insects often found on the trunks of fruit trees and some shrubs such a *Lilac* and *Euonymus*.

Lime sulphur is particularly effective in controlling some diseases such as *black spot on roses*, *powdery mildew*, *apple scab* and *peach leaf curl*.

## When to Spray

Depending on the weather, late February to early April is the best time to apply a “dormant spray” to *fruit trees*, *roses* and to certain *ornamental shrubs* that are susceptible to insects and diseases.

## Applying the Spray

When applying lime sulphur to roses as a dormant spray, be sure to spray all of the stems and the ground around the plants. This spray will help to destroy the over wintering disease. Lime sulphur and dormant oil can also be mixed together to control certain insects. These are both strong sprays and must be applied while the plants are dormant and before the buds begin to break as they will burn tender young growth. To control black knot of plums and cherries, apply a lime sulphur spray just as the buds break.

# *Dormant Spraying*

## Garden Control FAQ's

### ⊗ **When can I apply Dormant Spray?**

Dormant sprays can be applied in late winter or early spring before the new buds show green at the tips. Apply on a clear mild day to ensure the spray will dry on the tree and not freeze.

### ⊗ **I have just applied an insect control product in my yard. How long do I have to wait before letting the children play in the yard?**

Always allow the plants to dry thoroughly before allowing children and pets to play around them. Do not allow children or pets in the yard during application. Pest control products will usually only take a few hours to dry on a warm clear day. If you are unsure about drying time, as a safety precaution, observe a 24-hour period of no entry.

### ⊗ **What is the shelf life of pest control product?**

Always store pest control products in the original container, in cool, dry area out of reach of children and pets and preferably locked. Products stored in this manner will last at least 5 years with no reduction of performance. To dispose of unwanted pesticides, contact your regional government Household Hazardous Waste Department.

### ⊗ **Are pest control products damaged by freezing?**

Freezing does not damage most pest control products. As a general rule liquid product should not be frozen.

### ⊗ **What is the easiest way to control fungus disease on plants?**

Fungus disease on plants are very difficult to control, It is unlike insect or weed pests that can be removed by hand or treated with a control product and get results in a few days.

⊗ Successful control of fungus diseases requires a prevention strategy. This includes cultural practice such as removing fallen leaves

and debris around the plants; avoid watering in the evenings and keeping a close eye on susceptible plants. Fungicides need to be applied before or at the first sign of damage. This is achieved most easily with some historical background (from previous seasons) and a little research about the disease and its life cycle.

### ⊗ **When should insect control product be applied?**

Insect control products can be applied at the first sign of an infestation or when damaged is first noticed. A regular inspection of your plants will help identify potential hot spots before they become a problem. A few insects noticed early can be removed by hand and can help eliminate larger problems down the road. Insect infestations are easier to control at an early stage. A little research about the insect and its life cycle will help to determine the most effective time to apply a control product.

## Dormant Oil Spray Kit

- ⊗ A package containing Horticultural Oil and Liquid Lime Sulphur.
- ⊗ Controls over-wintering insects, insect eggs and diseases on fruit trees, roses and ornamentals.
- ⊗ Use in early spring before buds open.
- ⊗ Very effective for the control of scale insects.

 Blomidon nurseries



## Note of Caution

As with all pesticides, read the label very carefully and follow the instructions exactly. These sprays cannot be applied to certain trees and shrubs as noted on the labels. If you are in doubt, ask our staff at Blomidon Nurseries. They will make sure that you are applying these sprays properly. The dormant spray is one of the most important sprays necessary to ensure clean, top quality fruit in your garden.