

Discussion

Q. Muller: Regarding the pre-conditioning period on the fusiform rust disease, what type of weather did you have between the 4-hour period of infection? Will the hot sun dry out the spores of telia on the day following the afternoon rain?

A. Rowan: The 4-hour period I spoke of is a saturated rainy-type period with temperature near **67°F**. It must actually be 4 hours to produce these microbes. Thundershowers commonly occur in the late-afternoon, but it must be at least a 4-hour period for this infection to occur, It can be as hot as **98-100 F** the next day, as long as there comes a shower again the following afternoon. Even though the spores are active immediately after the second rain begins, it takes 4 hours from the time the spore enters the seedling to infect it,

Q. Mickelson: Are there any indications by which you can sort out black rots and ship the others without contaminating a plantation?

A, Rowan: I think you will find that the pathogen can be on the seedling and not cause any rot at all; so if you tried to ship seedlings out by simply removing the black rot-rooted ones you'd no doubt ship some with the pathogen on them and probably ruin a whole plantation.

Q. Forbes: Have you used liquid Thimet?

A, Merkel: No, we haven't as yet.

Comment: *Thimet* is available in the liquid form. I don't know why more people haven't tried it. It would seem that there would be a larger approach to inject it into the soil program.

Comment: We tried it; it works. You can actually get a commercial outfit to put it out for you. You use about a gallon per tree -- it can be metered out. You get about the same amount of phonate as you do with the crystals. The uptake is quick and there is no runoff; it's a quick job.

Comment - Merkel; Another possibility is spraying it around the base of the tree and letting the bark soak it up.

Q. Forbes: With the applicator you demonstrated, do you drop the crystals in one place, put them in holes, or how? Is it a one shot application?

A. Bland: The crystals are put in a band around the tree. All we are using now is the 40-gram rate. The length of the hose determines the size of the dose.

Q. Forbes: Is it a surface application?

A. Bland: Yes.

Q. Forbes: How far are you putting this from the tree?

A. Bland: About 6 inches from the tree.

Q. King: We are interested in gel methyl bromide. In your nursery, what was the organic content and soil type? Did you get any response in high organic content in sandy soil?

A. Green: We don't have a high organic content in our soil. We feel that we are getting good results, using a 1-acre check plot.