



SAUNDERS BROTHERS

SINCE 1915

A Family Tradition of the Best from the Nursery & Orchard

Research by Chuan Hong shows mulching greatly reduces Box Blight pressure

Key Points

- Recent research showed that mulching reduced Box Blight lesions by up to 97%
- Mulching creates a barrier between fallen infected leaves and healthy leaves.
- Any type (hardwood, softwood, pine needles) of mulch should be effective.
- Add thin layer (1/2"-1") of mulch every Spring to keep this barrier.
- If Box Blight is already present in plants, before mulching
 - a. Carefully remove ALL infected foliage from ALL boxwood in area
 - b. Remove bottom 12" of limbs/ leaves of boxwood to lessen splashing on lower leaves of plants, and to promote better air flow under boxwood.

Supplemental Materials

Table S1. Total lesion counts on four replicate detector plants after being placed in mulched (Mulch) and non-mulched (Non) plantainers for 1 week at the Lowgap research site during each monitoring period in 2015 and 2016

Monitoring period	2015				2016			
	Start	End	Non	Mulch	Start	End	Non	Mulch
1	19 May	26 May	2	1	18 May	25 May	2	0
2	26 May	2 Jun	362	15	25 May	1 Jun	2	2
3	2 Jun	9 Jun	684	0	1 Jun	8 Jun	4	5
4	9 Jun	16 Jun	123	4	8 Jun	15 Jun	0	0
5	16 Jun	23 Jun	6	3	15 Jun	22 Jun	0	0
6	23 Jun	30 Jun	3	0	22 Jun	29 Jun	1	0
7	30 Jun	7 Jul	52	1	29 Jun	6 Jul	2	0
8	7 Jul	14 Jul	0	0	6 Jul	13 Jul	6	2
9	14 Jul	21 Jul	0	0	13 Jul	21 Jul	1	0
10	21 Jul	28 Jul	0	0	21 Jul	28 Jul	0	0
11	28 Jul	4 Aug	0	0	28 Jul	4 Aug	2	0
12	4 Aug	11 Aug	0	0	4 Aug	11 Aug	7	0
13	11 Aug	17 Aug	5	0	11 Aug	16 Aug	0	0
14	17 Aug	25 Aug	0	1	16 Aug	24 Aug	4	0
15	25 Aug	1 Sep	1	0	24 Aug	31 Aug	3	0
16	1 Sep	8 Sep	8	1	31 Aug	7 Sep	1	0
17	8 Sep	15 Sep	10	5	7 Sep	14 Sep	0	0
18	15 Sep	23 Sep	5	0	14 Sep	21 Sep	7	0
19	23 Sep	30 Sep	321	18	21 Sep	28 Sep	35	0
20	30 Sep	7 Oct	35	6	28 Sep	5 Oct	91	0
21	7 Oct	14 Oct	2	0	5 Oct	12 Oct	80	3
22	14 Oct	21 Oct	7	0	12 Oct	19 Oct	0	0
23	21 Oct	29 Oct	77	1	19 Oct	26 Oct	2	0
24	29 Oct	4 Nov	3	10	26 Oct	2 Nov	0	0
25	4 Nov	11 Nov	6	0	2 Nov	9 Nov	7	0
26	11 Nov	17 Nov	27	0	9 Nov	17 Nov	1	0
27					17 Nov	23 Nov	0	0
28					23 Nov	1 Dec	2	0
29					1 Dec	7 Dec	9	0
30					7 Dec	14 Dec	0	0
Positive periods			20	12			20	4
Total number of lesions			1,739	66			504	21

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