In mid-August 2001, a new rust disease was confirmed on daylilies (Hemerocallis) growing in Arkansas. To date, the rust has been reported in 30 states and is currently confined to the daylily. The disease, which is caused by the fungus Puccinia hemerocallidis, was first identified in Florida in the fall of 1999. The rust is native to Asia and may have been introduced into the U.S. from Central America. Daylily varieties differ in their disease susceptibility.

Daylily rust can be easily confused with other leaf problems such as insect damage (e.g., mites) and leaf streak disease, which is caused by another fungus. Spots associated with leaf streak diseases are not raised and do not yield the orange-yellow stain on white facial tissue.

Controls

1. Affected plant tissue should be removed and properly disposed of.
2. After cut-back, apply one of the following chemicals according to label directions:
   a. Propiconazole (Banner Maxx™, Fertilome Liquid Systemic Fungicide)
   b. Azoxystrobin (Heritage™)
   c. Myclobutanil (Eagle™, Spectracide Immunox)

Alternate between two of the above fungicides at the label rate to protect new foliage that is forming on the plant.

Resources

Arkansas Rust Ratings:
http://daylilies.uaex.edu/
http://www.daylilies.org/ahs_dictionary/daylily_rust.html
http://web.ncf.ca/ah748/rust.html
http://plantclinic.cornell.edu/factsheets/daylilyrust.pdf

Visit our web site at:
http://www.uaex.edu

References to commercial products or trade names are made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied. The user is responsible for determining that the intended use is consistent with the label of the product being used. Read and follow label directions.
Stages of daylily rust development (underside of leaves): Left: later stages Right: initial

Daylily rust symptoms (2 left leaves) Leaf streak disease (5 right leaves)