PRUNUS - Flowering Cherry

Blossom and Twig Blight (Monilinia fructicola). A sev. infection on P. glandulosa resulted in cankering and death of 10-75% of the shoots of a number of shrubs at Kentville, N.S. (J.F. Hockey).

Leaf Drop (cause undetermined). Defoliation of P. cerasifera at Vancouver, B.C. was noticeable in May (H.N.W. Toms).

PYRACANTHA

Scab (Fusicladium pyracanthae) caused heavy damage to berry clusters of P. coccinea at Saanichton, B.C. In one garden 75% of the fruits and pedicels were infected (W.R. Orchard).

PYRUS - Mountain Ash

Fire Blight (Erwinia amylovora) occurred on P. americana at Quebec City, Que. (D. Leblond).

Rust (Gymnosporangium spp.). Sev. leaf infections were seen on P. decora at Clearwater Bay, Ont. Nearby P. aucuparia was not infected (W.L. Gordon). P. americana was infected by G. juniperi at St. John's West, Nfld. (O.A. Olsen).

Leaf Spot (Phyllosticta sp.) was sl. on P. americana at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, Que. (D.L.).

QUERCUS - Oak

Anthracnose (Gloeosporium nervisequum). Leaves bearing mod. infections were received from Manotick, Ont. (D.W. Creelman)

Leaf Blister (Taphrina caerulescens) was mod. on Q. rubra at Charlottetown, P.E.I. (J.E. Campbell).

RHAMNUS - Buckthorn

Crown Rust (Puccinia coronata). Tr. infections only were seen on R. cathartica at Charlottetown and Summerside, P.E.I. It was much lighter in intensity than usual (J.E. Campbell).

RHODODENDRON

A Wilt of cultivated Rhododendron associated with Pestalotia macrotricha Klebahn

J.F. Hockey

Some of the cultivated rhododendron plants grown in a "slat" house in a commercial nursery at Centerville, Nova Scotia were observed on September 25, 1958 to be affected by a wilt. The majority of the wilted plants had one or more stems affected. The leaves drooped along the stem rather than holding their normally rigid position, and some of the current season green wood bore tan-colored cankers extending from a basal scar upwards toward the top whorl of leaves.

An examination of the crowns of affected plants revealed the presence of partially or completely girdled scion wood, the bark of which loosened readily to expose a thin, white felt of fungus mycelium. The stocks on which the scions were grafted appeared normal and buds had developed from some stocks giving rise to shoots.

Observations were made about a week later on the plants remaining and the prevalence of wilt was recorded. These data presented in the following table.

The incidence of wilt in the nine varieties of rhododendron

Caractacus	10/16	Mrs. P. Den Ouden	0/25
Dr. H.C. Dresselhuys	3/25	Lee's Dark Purple	0/30
America	3/28	Dr. H.J. Lovink	0/30. 0/30
Mrs. C.H. Sargent	10/22	Van Dee Hoop	0/28
F.D. Goodman	2/30		

Cultures on potato-dextrose-agar of sub-epidermal tissue from affected plants yielded a Pestalotia which fitted well the description of P. macrotricha Klebahn. Acervuli of this fungus appeared on affected stems after about two weeks in a moist chamber.

A similar condition was described by Howarth and Chippendale (Gard. Chron. 86: 471, 1929). They reported a heavy mortality in rhododendrons 3 to 5 years after grafting and stated that Pestalotia macrotricha was readily isolated from stems and branches of affected plants. White (Phytopath. 20: 85-91, 1930) showed P. macrotricha and P. rhododendri to be weak parasites on rhododendrons. Both organisms could enter the plants through wounds or injuries and once established could invade otherwise healthy tissues.

Note: Specimens from Centerville submitted with this report agreed well with Klebahn's description of P. macrotricha and with collections filed under this name in DAOM. P. macrotricha has not previously been reported on Rhododendron in the Survey, though there is a collection on leaves from Annapolis Royal, N.S., in the Kentville herbarium. P. rhododendri (D. Sacc.) Guba has been reported as causing a leaf spot in B.C. (P.D.S. 12: 1933) and Quebec (P.D.S. 16: 1937).

Guba (Phytopath. 19: 191-231, 1929) in his monograph of Pestalotia retains Klebahn's species as distinct from P. rhododendri. In a more recent study Steyaert (Bull. Jard. bot. Brux. 19: 285-354, 1949) maintains that Pestalotia de Not. is a monotypic genus with P. pezizoides de Not. the single species. The remaining species of Pestalotia he disposes in two new genera, Pestalotiopsis and Truncatella. He places P. macrotricha Klebahn in synonomy with Pestalotiopsis guepini (Desm.) Steyaert, the type species of the new genus (D.W. Creelman).

RIBES - Flowering Currant

Anthracnose (Drepanopeziza ribis). Heavy infections occurred on 1000 plants of R. alpinum in a nursery at Port Burwell and mod.-sev. infections were prevalent in the Ottawa, Ont. district (H.S. Thompson). At St. Jean, Que. 50% of the plants in a hedge were sev. infected and defoliation was about 20% (L. Cinq-Mars, D.B.O. Savile). It was sev. at Les Saules and mod. on 3000 nursery plants at Ste. Monique des Saules, Que. (D. Leblond, H.S.T.). Anthracnose was 8-sl. 5-mod. 1-sev./14 Quebec nurseries inspected (J. Ringuet).

ROBINIA - Locust

Anthracnose (Gloeosporium sp.). Mod. infections occurred on leaves and twigs of R. pseudo-acacia at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, Que. (D. Leblond).

ROSA - Rose

Gray Mold (Botrytis cinerea) caused sev. flower spotting on floribunda roses at Saanichton, B.C. The infection was apparently spread from an underplanting of Viola by overhead irrigation (W.R. Orchard). Rosebuds in a garden at Lethbridge, Alta. were affected (J.E. Moffatt).