Onion Pest
Identification and Management

Cutworms

Remove weeds and plant residue

Till garden before planting

Place cardboard collars or aluminum foil around stems when planting transplants

Onion Maggot

Avoid using animal manure or green manure in spring

When possible, delay planting onions (until after June 1)

Remove and destroy host plants in fall

Use row covers in spring (don’t plant onions in the same area in consecutive years)
Purple Blotch
Fungal disease

Yellow storage onions are more resistant than Spanish onions.
Use drip irrigation.
Do not leave culls near field.
Till under all plant residue after harvest.
Do not plant onions, leeks, or shallots in the same field for 3-4 years.

Fusarium Basal Rot

Plant varieties with tolerance or resistance to disease.
Plant in well drained soil or use raised beds to improve drainage.
Do not plant onions, shallots, garlic or chives in the same field for 4 years.