

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.



Funding provided through a partnership agreement between the Minnesota Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association and the USDA - Risk Management Agency. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer. This publication/material is available in alternative formats upon request. Direct requests to [name, department, e-mail address, phone number]. Printed on recycled and recyclable paper with at least 10 percent postconsumer material.