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## SOIL-PLUS® Eliminates Pink Root Rot (Pennsylvania) USA

#### **ABSTRACT**

Rhododendron nursery stock grown in 4" and 8" pots were treated in the summer with Biofeed <u>SOIL-PLUS®</u> to control and eradicate Pink Root Rot. After one application, all Rhododendrons infected with Pink Root Rot were found to be disease free and remained disease free for the entire growing season. Biofeed <u>FLORA-PLUS®</u> was later applied to stimulate the regrowth of roots that had been damaged prior to treatment.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Kleber Nursery has historically had problems with Pink Root Rot in potted rhododendrons in their hoop greenhouses. Fungicides worked to eradicate the disease; however, re-growth of decease-damaged roots took much longer for the plant to finish. This meant not all plants were finished for market, on time. Kleber was forced to seek effective alternatives to reduce costs and have quality plants ready for sale at the end of each growing season.

### **APPLICATION**

One gallon each of SOIL-PLUS® and FLORA-PLUS® were mixed in 100 gallons of water and applied as a soil-drench to all the pots once every 30 days.

## **RESULTS**

The following results were documented during the test period:

- No visible signs of Pink Root Rot were present within five days of the first application.
- All plants not displaying symptoms of Pink Root Rot remained disease free during the entire growing season.
- The roots of previously infected plants rapidly recovered with little loss in growing time.

#### **SUMMARY**

Kleber Nursery personnel were very pleased and now apply the products regularly as a preventative.