

FAQs

I pulled out a diseased plant. Is it okay to plant in the same soil again?

>Depends. If the disease was due to a virus, you may plant again in the same soil. Many viruses do not survive in soil

FAQs

I really take good care of my plants and I don't see much of a disease issues!

>Stresses like lack of water or poor soil fertility could weaken your plants and could result in disease expression

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Is it possible to make dahlias resistant to viruses?

>Yes. Through the process called plant breeding. For this, we first need to identify genes that provide that resistance and move them into desirable cultivars

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Some of my plants looked diseased but new growth looked fine rest of the season. Why is that?

> This happens some times. Plants fight back and try to recover from the disease. This does not mean that they got rid of the virus

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My plants looked like diseased with leaves showing symptoms similar to what Dr. Pappu showed. But the flowers came out normal. Should I keep using the tubers/cuttings from these plants?

> Not a good idea! Viruses accumulate and pass on from generation to generation and can cause more damage.

FAQs

What can I do to reduce virused plants?

- Disinfecting knives/tools goes a long way!
- 10% household bleach can be very effective in inactivating many viruses

FAQs

Is there something that I can spray to 'cure' my diseased plants?

- No
- There are no known chemical therapies for plant viruses - to 'get rid of/kill' a virus from a diseased plant

FAQs

I pulled out a few diseased plants. Is it okay to compost them?

- It is better if you don't. It depends on the region: where summer temperatures are higher, the composting process could inactivate the viruses

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You said dahlia viruses are spread by bugs. What can I do about it?

- Yes, many of the dahlia viruses are spread by insects - but their relative importance in disease spread in household gardens is relatively low.
- Removing leaves with symptoms - first time they appear and become visible - reduces the virus that could be spread by insects

Remember!

Removing plants with disease as soon as you notice them and not using/selling/sharing tubers from those plants is the surest way to reduce the virus problem over time.

Those who have been doing this over the years have virus-free plants.

FAQs

How can we reach you?

- Google: Pappu and WSU
 - hrp@wsu.edu



Thank you!



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- WSU Agricultural Research Center
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