

## Diseases of Specific Florist Crops

Keeping florist crops free of disease requires constant care and planning. Prevention is the basis of freedom from disease and should be an integral part of the general cultural program. The symptoms of the diseases of major florist crops are described individually by crop in a series of fact sheets.

### Calla

- Soft rot (*Erwinia carotovora* or *E. aroidae*): A soft, mushy, foul-smelling rot of rhizomes or stem bases. Cut out rotted spots before planting. Place rhizomes in separate containers and water individually if possible to reduce disease spread. Use a well-drained growing medium.
- Root rot (*Phytophthora* or *Pythium* spp.): Roots are decayed back to the rhizomes.
- Viruses: Small plants, chlorotic foliar streaking, flower distortion. Discard affected plants.

