**Powdery mildew**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Powdery mildew** is a [fungal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fungus) disease that affects a wide range of plants. Powdery mildew is one of the easier plant diseases to identify, as its symptoms are quite distinctive. Infected plants display white powdery spots on the leaves and stems. The lower leaves are the most affected, but the [mildew](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mildew) can appear on any above-ground part of the plant. As the disease progresses, the spots get larger and denser as large numbers of asexual [spores](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spore) are formed, and the mildew may spread up and down the length of the plant.

Powdery mildew grows well in environments with low (?) [humidity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humidity) and moderate temperatures.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powdery_mildew#cite_note-Huang-3) Greenhouses provide an ideal moist, temperate environment for the spread of the disease. This causes harm to agricultural and horticultural practices where powdery mildew may thrive in a greenhouse setting.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powdery_mildew#cite_note-:0-4) In an agricultural or horticultural setting, the [pathogen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pathogen) can be controlled using chemical methods, bio organic methods, and genetic resistance. It is important to be aware of powdery mildew and its management as the resulting disease can significantly reduce important crop yields.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powdery_mildew#cite_note-Maloy-5)

**Gourds and melons[**[**edit**](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Powdery_mildew&action=edit&section=13)**]**



Powdery mildew of cucurbits

Multiple species of [fungus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fungus) can cause powdery mildew of [cucurbits](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cucurbitaceae): [cucumbers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cucumber), [squashes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Squash_%28plant%29) (including [pumpkins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pumpkin)), [luffas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luffa), [melons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melon), and [watermelons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watermelon).

**Tips from Brigitte Ziobrowski:**

I added two links below for organic powdery mildew spray.  I used the water, dish soap, baking soda version and it worked well.  I have a 1 quart bottle, so I adjusted the ratios: 32 oz water, 1/4 Tbsp baking soda, 1/8 teasp Dawn.

The mouthwash option is intriguing as I read somewhere that hydrogen peroxide is more effective than baking soda...

<https://www.saferbrand.com/articles/treat-powdery-mildew-plants>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Spray-for-Powdery-Mildew>