

Rust is not subject to direct control. Early crops are more likely to escape rust than late crops that run into cool, damp weather are. Rust is worse on low or undrained land than it is on windswept land, because of the deposit of moisture on the plants. Heat does not cause smut, though it may hasten the drying up of plants and the shrinking of grain where the tissues of plants are weakened and broken by the disease. Rotation of crops is unfavorable to rust. Some varieties of grain are less subject to rust than others, for example, durum wheat, or early varieties of oats, as compared with late oats.

Potato Scab is a fungus disease causing dry, scabby patches on the tuber of the potato. It gets worse every year if potatoes are planted a number of times in succession on the same land. The spores also persist on the potato itself. Rotation of crops, selection of seed, and formaldehyde treatment of seed are the remedies.

Potato Blight. The spores of blight persist in the potato and in the stalks. They work their way into the tissues of the leaves and destroy them. The disease gets to the surface by the leaf pores, the spores are distributed by the wind and developed by moisture. It is hard to control after it has got started. Frequent spraying with Bordeaux mixture is a preventive.

Ergot is a fungus that appears on rye, couch grass,