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| **Bedding Plant Problem** | ***Causes or Symptoms*** | **Solutions** |
| Tall and Spindly Growth | *Caused by too much nitrogen fertilizer, overwatering, low light intensity (too much shade) or high temperatures.*  | Can be solved by using correct amount of nitrogen, reducing frequency of watering, lowering temperature, providing more light and using growth retardants such as B-Nine or A-Rest. |
| Algae/Slime | *Caused by excessive overwatering and warm temperatures, does not have chance to dry out.*  | Corrected or prevented by watering only when needed, an algaecide, bleach, or power washing of greenhouse structures. |
| Damping Off | *Symptoms are seedlings falling over at the soil level.*  | Corrected by watering less and having good air circulation in the greenhouse. |
| Powdery Mildew | *Leaves of plants are coated with a powdery substance- sometimes can appear fuzzy.*  | Can be solved or prevented by decreasing air temperature and circulation and using the correct fungicide, like a copper based chemical. |
| Uneven Growth | *Caused by poor mixing of medium, uneven moisture levels, unlevel flats or poor grading of seedlings.*  | Corrected or prevented by proper mixing of media, even watering, grading seedlings by size and quality and placing flats level. |
| Root Rot | *Caused by overwatering the medium and not allowing the potting soil to dry out which leads to suffocation of roots.*  | Can be prevented by reducing humidity or temperatures, using a fungicide or using more porous medium. |
| Rust | *Leaves have colonies of orange-brown powdery blisters, often on undersides of leaves.*  | Use disease resistant plants, remove infected leaves and do not use overhead watering. |
| Fertilization | *Caused by lack of nutrients, root injury, improper pH of medium, excessive fertilization.*  | Can be solved by testing soil or media and applying correct amounts and kinds of nutrients and pH correcting materials. |
| Tobacco Mosaic Virus | *Mottling of foliage and failure to have flowers and fruit. Overall discoloration and poor plant growth.*  | Do NOT allow cigarette smokers to handle plant material without first washing hands and using gloves. Discard infected plants. Use disease resistant varieties. |
| Botrytis | *Lower leaves are brown, rotting with gray fuzz and then drying.*  | Decrease air temperature and air circulation around the plants. Use the proper fungicide. |
| Germination Problems | *Improper temperatures, over-watering, under watering, chemical residues in medium, seed planting depth or low quality seeds.*  | Corrected or prevented by using high-quality seeds planted at proper depth in medium having no chemical residues and by maintaining proper temperature and moisture levels. Good air circulation and sterile media is key to reduction of problem. |

Key

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