

# Cercospora Leaf Spot

Cercospora leaf spot commonly affects bigleaf hydrangea. This occurs when leaves are regularly wet, either by rain or irrigation. Leaf spot is largely aesthetic as plants seldom die from this disease.

## Signs & Symptoms

- Circular spots begin as brown or purple spots near the base of the plant, they may develop tan or gray centers surrounded by brown or purple halos
- Leaves may turn yellow and fall off
- Initial infection typically occurs in May, but the symptoms often appear from July through October

## Management

- Avoid splashing water on foliage
- Do not allow the plant to sit in soggy soil
- Remove all leaf debris
- Fungicides are seldom needed to control, however, a fungicide can be applied as a preventative



Photo Wilson Brothers Gardens