

HOSTA

Clean inputs and plant removal are critical components to minimize transmission of Hosta Virus X.

- Hosta Virus X (HVX) is prolific pathogen causing some or multiple of the following symptoms: inkbleeding, mottling, ringspots, leaf distortion, potentially necrosis.
- Transmission occurs mechanically when dividing or trimming.
- All varieties are susceptible but may not show symptoms (asymptomatic) for years.
- Virus are confirmed through an ELISA test.
- Sanitize tools between production blocks to remove virus containing plant sap.
- Remove and dispose of the block it came from to limit the spread.
- Never composted infected plants.
- Purchase inputs from a reputable supplier who frequently tests stock for HVX. TC has a reduced risk.
- **Growers are responsible for managing the spread of HVX in their operations.**

Hosta @ Risk Crop

*Hosta Virus X is mechanically transmitted and can often go undetected in asymptomatic plants. Ball has worked diligently to minimize the risk, BUT growers are **solely responsible** for growing plants under clean cultural conditions, promptly removing suspect and infected plants, and reporting infections to suppliers to limit the spread of this virus.*

INPUT TYPES

- Tissue culture
- Bareroot
- Rooted liners

TEMPERATURE

- Acclimate bareroot materials if removing from cold storage
- Average 70F (21C) for the best root development

WATER

- Avoid dramatic swings in soil moisture drying from a level 4 to 2 after each watering for root liners and bareroot inputs
- TC inputs require acclimation from high RH (100%) to normal propagation levels (70 to 80%) with consistent soil moisture until roots are established

LIGHT

- Light levels below 4000 FtC will minimize potential sunscald and can be achieved using 30% shade cloth
- Shade cloth (>50%) should be used during TC acclimation and establishment when light intensity is high, and heat will increase transpiration

MEDIA

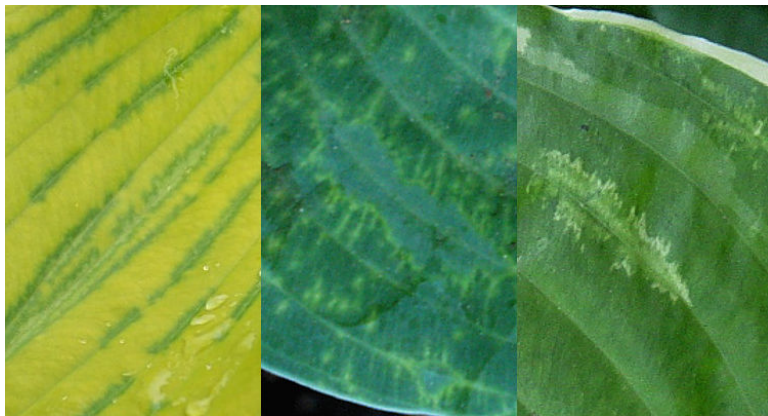
- Well-drained, disease-free medium with an initial nutrient charge and pH of 5.8 to 6.5

FERTILIZATION

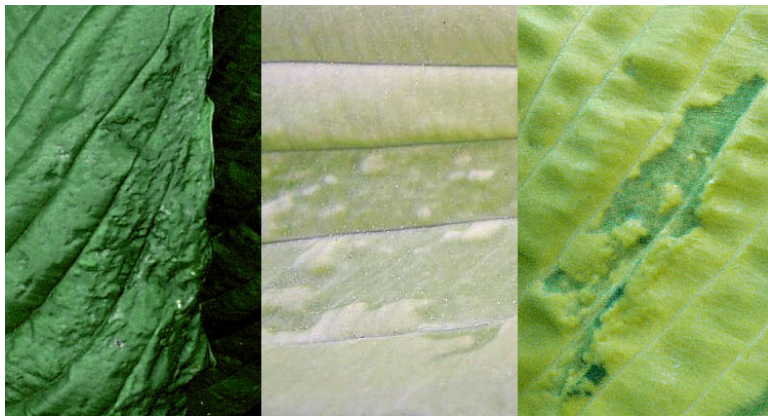
- Light to moderate feeders
- 100 ppm liquid fertilizer

- Slow release formulations with an eight-month release pattern are common

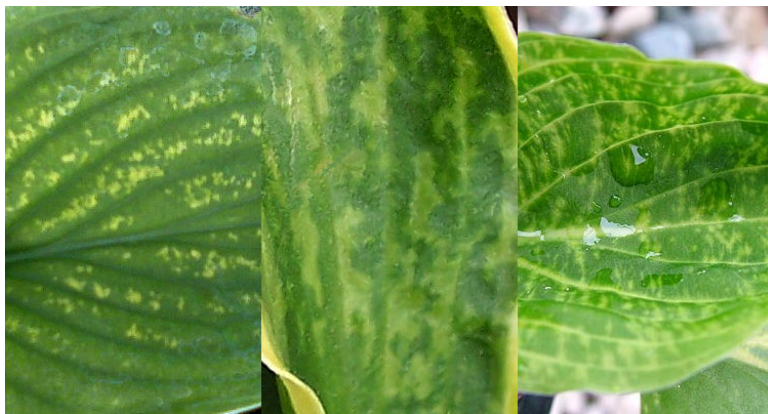
HVX symptomology courtesy of hostalibrary.org (<http://www.hostalibrary.org/firstlook/HVX.htm>)



Inkbleeding



Collapsing tissue or wrinkled appearance



Mottled issue and discoloration

For more information on this disease: <https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/files/2015/01/Hosta-Virus-X.pdf>

Find more resources: <https://www.ballseed.com/QuickCulture/ProductionGuides/>

Tech On Demand Podcast: <https://www.growertalks.com/TechOnDemand/>