

RECIPE

Powdery Mildew Solution



Ingredients

- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp neem oil
- 2 drops Dawn dish soap
- 1 gal water

Preparation

1. Mix it all together.
2. Spray on all parts of plant, upper and lower leaves

Background & Tips

Powdery mildew on *Begonia* is caused by a fungus (*Erysiphe cichoracearum*). The powdery patches on *Begonia* are composed of fungus strands and spores. Air currents carry these spores, which are capable of infecting leaves, stems, and flowers of the same or nearby plants. The disease thrives in dim light and warm days with cool nights.

Be sure to mix well before each application. Trial test on a leaf.

Continued applications may be needed.

Baking Soda (sodium bicarbonate) acts as a base solution that mildew cannot grow on and will kill mildew. Dish soap acts as an emulsifier. Neem adds adhesion of the solution to the plant.

You can increase the strength of the solution as needed.

Move plants to locations with more light. Keep temperature even and moderate. Keep your plants in an area of good air circulation but out of cool drafts.