

1. Did I let these people know how important they were to me and to the company? Or did I more or less take them for granted?
2. Did I give them a chance to be proud of themselves? Did I pass along all the authority I possibly could—or keep them tied to my apron strings?
3. Did I give them the credit and recognition they deserved from me and others in the company? Or did I tend to leave them in the shadows?
4. Was the job a real challenge? Did I do my best to make it so?
5. Did I make their work as varied and interesting as possible? Did I show them the possibilities of a promising future? Or did I simply leave them in a rut and exploit their abilities to my own advantage? Don't be too quick to let yourself off the hook. If you were responsible, to any degree, it's smarter to realize it than to hide your head in the sand. Unless you change your attitude or actions, you may lose more than just good people. You may be on the verge of damaging your company or career as well.

Obviously, the best time to think of these things is before you lose good people rather than after.

ABOUT DORMANT OILS

BY Stanley Rachesky

Dormant oils are designed to be mixed with water. The rates vary depending on the pest in question. In some cases an insecticide is added to the oil to improve the effectiveness of the treatment.

Consider the temperature before applying an oil. It should not be applied if the temperature is below 40 degrees Fahrenheit or will go down to freezing shortly after applying the oil. On some evergreens, injury may occur if freezing temperatures appear within three weeks after the treatment. Oils applied after October 1st may increase cold damage to some trees. An oil may also cause plant burning if applied when the temperature is 90 degrees Fahrenheit plus during or immediately before hot, dry weather or on plants suffering from drought.

Oil sprays should not be used on certain plants because the result will be burning. Sugar maples, hemlock, larch, Cryptomeria, Japanese maples, beech, hickory, walnut, butternut, mountain ash, maidenhair, ferns, Cocos Palms and African violets fall into this category. Oil will also injure Douglas fir flower buds and will remove the blue color from the blue spruce. Oil applied in August or September on fruit trees may effect fruit color and solids content.

Do not use oils with or following the application of certain pesticides: dinitro compounds, sulfurs, captan, Folpet, Pyrene, Karathane, Morestan, lime sulfur, wettable sulfur, Dichlone, Phaltan or Sevin. Read your labels carefully for additional instructions.

Check your oil to see if it is still good before you use it. The mixture of water and oil should be uniform and milky-white after shaking. If it doesn't emulsify, don't use it.

CREDIT: Patch of Green

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