

Some Effects of Fuel Oil on Plants

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ABSTRACT

Experiments were carried on with the tomato, the peach, the apple, and with *Ageratum houstonianum*. These exhibited marked variation in their reaction to oil applied to the soil in which they were growing. Where the oil actually entered the tissues a slow death followed. In other cases rather sudden death occurred with no traces of oil within the plant tissues. The experiments lead to the conclusion that commercial fuel oil has a harmful effect when brought into contact with the roots of plants and that the effect is fatal when the quantity is raised above the critical point for the species.

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