

Plants can get sunburned too! Indoor and Outdoor Plants

Both can be susceptible to sunburn and/or sunscald

<u>Plant conditions which may</u> <u>contribute can be;</u>

- insufficient moisture, or nutrients
- improper watering practices
- extremally high temperature
- moving plant suddenly without giving it time to harden properly
- Unchecked pests or disease resulting in loss of foliage





<u>Light exposure for a plant</u> <u>can change when;</u>

- harvesting of flowers or vegetables resulting in excess foliage removal
- heavy pruning increasing sun exposure to branches & trunk
- removal of neighboring trees or buildings resulting in removal of shade

Protecting Your Indoor Plants

Changing Environments or Exposure

Indoor House Plants can benefit from a different exposure, but be careful!



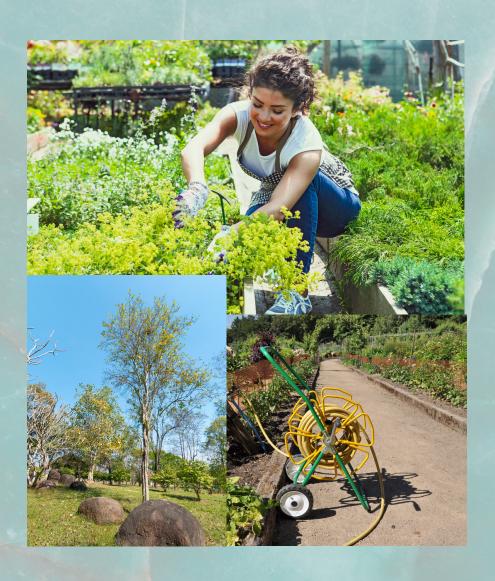
House Plants Can Become Sunburned

- INDOORS: If moving your plant to a new indoor location near a door or window, the sunlight may prism or magnify in this new location. This can happen when moving from window to window, shady to more sunlight, etc.
 - You may be able to remedy this by adding a thin sheer to the window, or providing a shielding plant that is used to this sun exposure
- INDOOR TO OUTDOOR: If you move the plant outdoors to enjoy some fresh air, be careful that aside from the difference in temperature, the outdoor environment can be drastically different than indoors, for example:
 - wind speed and direction
 - total light exposure throughout the day

A Few Simple Steps can help!

Protecting Indoor and Outdoor Plants

Plant quality, location and routine care all help avoid sunburn or scald



- Purchase quality plants that are healthy and do not already show signs of stress
- Frequent your local reputable growers, avoid plants grown in a greenhouse in a different USDA hardiness zone
- Plant in the correct location
- Be sure plants are hardened off before moving location (inside to out or outside to in)
- Water, fertilize and monitor properly for the plant type
- Use proper harvesting techniques, avoid leaving younger growth exposed
- Shade cloth or trellis can provide shade in areas of direct sunlight
- Wind or heavy rain damage can expose previously shaded growth

Do you have questions about your home landscape and plants?

Contact the Fort Bend Master Gardener Help Desk

Email:

FortBendmg@ag.tamu.edu

Phone:

281-341-7068

The Help Desk is manned Monday thru Friday, 9am-Noon <u>https://extension.umd.edu/resource/sunburn-damage-</u> f<u>lowers</u>

<u>aggie-hort.tamu.edu/citrus/disorders/sunburn1.htm</u> <u>http://aggie-</u>

horticulture.tamu.edu/plantanswers/publications/housepla nt/houseplant.html

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https://sites.udel.edu/weeklycropupdate/?p=12180
https://ag.purdue.edu/department/btny/ppdl/potw-deptfolder/2022/leaf-scorch-sunburn-hosta.html
https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and-gardennews/gardens-get-sunburned-too

https://aces.nmsu.edu/ces/yard/2006/040106.html https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/camellia-diseasesinsect-pests/

https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi? referer=&httpsredir=1&article=2238&context=extension_ curall

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https://pestadvisories.usu.edu/2017/08/31/sunburnsunsc ald-in-vegetables-squash-diseases-spider-mites-sap-beetlescorn-earworm-new-fact-sheet-and-upcoming-events/