

VIRUS FREE STOCK FOR YOUR GARDEN

By Ron Miner

On behalf of the Virus Team

Brad Freeman, Nick Weber, Jerry Moreno, Linda Taylor
and Professor Hanu Pappu

One key step in reducing the presence of virus in your dahlia garden is acquiring clean stock. Hopefully you are already aware of the project that the ADS is sponsoring for this summer that targets making it easier to get clean stock. With the financial support of the Scheetz-Chuey Charitable Foundation, the ADS is covering half the cost of testing a set of samples from your local Club. If you haven't heard about it, check it out on the ADS website, dahlia.org by clicking on "Research," then "Virus," then "Virus Testing for Your Garden." Volunteer to manage the project for your club if others aren't already doing that! The reward, in clean stock for your club, will greatly exceed the effort involved!

Remember, too, that there are two other actions that will help to minimize the spread of virus in your garden. First, disinfect your tools with either a 10% bleach solution accompanied by a strong Dawn detergent rinse, or a commercial product called Virkon S. Second, rogue out any plants that exhibit virus symptoms.