

## Plant Disease Fact Sheet

### **Alfalfa Mosaic Virus**

AMV

#### **Description**

Alfalfa Mosaic Virus (AMV) is an important viral disease which affects pachysandra and other commercial crops. The virus is spread primarily by aphids. The systemic nature of the disease allows it to spread through plant fluids infecting entire beds of pachysandra.

#### **Symptoms & Diagnosis**

Alfalfa Mosaic Virus appears as chlorotic rings and irregularly shaped blotches on leaves. Due to its systemic nature, AMV infects all plant parts. Temperature and light during infection influence how the disease manifests on the plant parts.

#### **Treatment**

Currently, there are no treatments available for Alfalfa Mosaic Virus. Control of virus-spreading aphids has not proven to be successful. In small areas, infected plants can be removed to slow the spread. However, it is important not to wound healthy plants as the virus moves through sap.

#### **Management**

Managing plant stress is a crucial component of disease management. Plants can remain healthier and aesthetically pleasing longer by properly managing water, avoiding compaction and grade changes, and controlling insect damage. Fertilization improves tree vigor.

#### **Affected Species**

Pachysandra



Pachysandra exhibiting chlorotic ring spots and irregular blotches symptomatic of AMV.



Infected plant material can be removed to slow the spread of AMV to healthy plants.