



**CEDAR RIVER GARDEN CENTER**  
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## How Green Is Your Thumb?

Can you diagnose what is happening in these photos?



*Pepper*



*Can you spot the issue?*



*Hosta*



*Tomato*

If you guessed sunscald, you are correct. Much like our skin, both leaves and produce and get too much sun. I noticed this on my Sedum this year after I cut it back. My plant will bounce back, it just happened to be that the strong UV was too much on the center leaves that had previously been mostly shaded by the top canopy.

We have also seen full sun houseplants be moved outside after being in an indoor location and burn once they are exposed to direct sunlight for prolonged periods of time. You can prevent this by moving them outside for a few hours at a time over an extended period of time.

What can you do for produce?

To be brutally honest, there isn't much unless you can provide some shade to your plants. I recently had to move my containerized Brussels Sprouts to a part sun as my leaves were starting to lose their vigor.

A few tips:

- \* Be sure the plants have adequate moisture, mulching with straw will help.
- \* Be careful if you try and shade your plants with a heavy fabric. The UV rays could create a greenhouse effect and could warm your plants more than desired. We would suggest using a sheer curtain to still allow air movement yet stop some of the sunlight.
- \* Create a canopy above the height of your plants. Do not drape it directly over top.

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## **The Boring Details (again):**

### **Return Policy**

Just a reminder to our valued customers. Our signs are posted by the cash registers, but it never hurts to get the details sent directly to you.

We have a same day return policy on all plant material. We have this policy to protect your future purchases. Once a plant leaves here, we don't know what has happened to it.

In order to sell the high quality plant material we believe in, we need to be 100% sure that it has received the best care possible. The naked eye cannot see a stressed root ball, but an unhealthy root can cause larger issues down the line.

We also want to be sure your plants have not been exposed to diseases or pest for an extended period of time. Sure, issues still pop up at a garden center. We know what to look for and why when we have spent day in and day out with the plants.

### **Guarantee Policy**

Our guarantee continues to be the same as previous years. We have a 50% guarantee on Blueberries, shrubs, and trees purchased at full price. This means you will receive 50% of what you paid for the tree or shrub to put towards the replacement. We do not guarantee the cost of a planting, as we know and trust the hard work of our crew.

We send home our policy with all tree and shrub purchases. Please read it, front and back. We ask you to do this, because there are some great tips on how to water your newly planted material.

### **What do we not guarantee, and why?**

We do not guarantee all perennials including Butterfly Bush and roses. A perennial is much easier to kill by either overwatering, underwatering, or a bunny munching on it. A tree or shrub is able to withstand those stressors better. Giving us both responsibility on caring for the material.

We ask you call or send images if any of your plant material is starting to look

stressed. We will always try and find a solution. We want your plant material to succeed.



## Storm Damage on Tomato

After storms, the heavy weight of tomatoes can cause splitting on the stems. Tomatoes are an incredibly resilient crop, and usually handle the damage fairly well.

If the plant lays down and stays attached to the main stem, it will root where it touches the soil.

If the damage is too high on the stem, then the best option is to prevent further detachment by attaching the stems to supports. The split doesn't typically grow back together but this method prevents it from splitting further. The stem will continue to grow perfectly fine.

Where ever you see damage, we suggest using a copper fungicide as a preventative measure. Disease and fungus have a way of finding a damaged area on plant material and attacking those spots.

If you are missing the top 1/3 of your plant, we say leave it! As long as you have retaining at least 2/3 of the leaf grow, it may be able to gather enough energy to continue to produce for you.



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