



BULLETIN

SUBJECT: *How to eliminate mildew*

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No.: *CanExel-6*

Mildew (mould or fungus) must be killed before painting or it will continue to grow and eventually penetrate the new coating. In extreme cases, mildew may even cause paint failure and peeling.

If stain remains after washing, the marks are probably due to mildew which can be checked by applying hypochlorite laundry bleach to a darkened area. Mildew will normally bleach out in one or two minutes. Stain that does not bleach is probably dirt or rust.

Mild isolated areas of mildew can be killed by washing the siding with a mixture of one part bleach and three parts warm water. If mildewed areas are more extensive, the following mixture can be used to both wash the siding and neutralize the mildew - 1/2 to 2/3 cup TSP* (trisodium phosphate), 1/3 cup detergent **containing no ammonia**, 1 quart (1 liter) laundry bleach (5% sodium hypochlorite e.g. Javex, Chlorox, etc.) 3 quarts (3 liters) warm water.

It is advisable to wear rubber gloves and goggles when applying this solution. Scrub with a moderately stiff brush then rinse thoroughly with fresh water. Any solution splashed on shrubbery or grass should be immediately washed off with copious amounts of water. Normally, best results are obtained by washing from the bottom up to prevent streaking.

In region where mildew is a serious problem, areas of exposed board surface can be treated with mildewcide to inhibit future growth. Addition of extra mildewcide to the paint will also minimize the problem.