

REDUCING FIELD SPOILAGE OF ONIONS BY TEMPORARY RAINSHelters
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Temporary fiberglass-panel rainshelters were placed over 'Yellow Granex' onions (Allium cepa L.) at 0, 1, 2, and 3 months after transplanting to reduce field spoilage. Onions transplanted during September and December were harvested 5 and 4½ months later, respectively. Only 25% of the onions were spoiled when they were protected by the rainshelters; this compares to 69% spoilage in the unprotected plots. The time of placing the rainshelters over the onions did not significantly affect protection in these trials. Thus, it is apparent that rain protection for onions is primarily needed in the final 1-2 months before harvest.