Technical Bulletin

The Impact and Management of Mildew and Algae on Roof Tiles

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Understanding Mildew and Algae Growth

Mildew and algae are classified as plants and, as with all plant species, thrive in environments where minerals, moisture, warmth, and light are present. Certain climate zones, such as those in Florida, create particularly favorable conditions for the development of these organisms. Interestingly, mildew and algae do not grow directly on roof tiles; instead, they colonize the accumulation of dust and organic matter that settles on the surface. When there are suitable levels of heat, moisture, and light, the spores of mildew and algae begin to propagate.

This phenomenon is strictly aesthetic in nature and **does not affect the water-shedding capabilities or structural integrity of the concrete roof tile.** The tile will continue to perform as intended, whether the surface growth is removed, or not.

Environmental Factors Influencing Growth

A variety of environmental factors can further influence the prevalence of mildew and algae. These include the orientation and location of the house, exposure to sunlight, and proximity to trees, canals, or lakes. Although research into preventative solutions is ongoing, there is currently no known manufacturing process or onsite coating that provides a long-term solution to this issue. Until technological advancements are achieved, roof tile manufacturers are unable to control this phenomenon, making mildew and algae ongoing maintenance considerations.

Maintenance and Safety Recommendations

Fortunately, it is possible to remove or treat mildew and algae without compromising the integrity of roof tiles. However, these organisms may reappear whenever favorable conditions return, meaning that repeated treatments will be necessary. Given the safety risks associated with walking on wet roof surfaces, it is strongly recommended that such maintenance be performed by professionals with relevant experience. Please reference the ***Guidelines for Walking on Roof Tile Surfaces Technical Bulletin*** at www.eagleroofing.com.

For more information, contact your local Eagle Account Representative by visiting eagleroofing.com.