Vegetable Crop Update

A newsletter for commercial potato and vegetable growers prepared by the University of Wisconsin-Madison vegetable research and extension specialists

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In This Issue

Late blight updates
Disease forecasting updates

Calendar of Events

July 15 – UW-Hancock ARS Field Day, 1:00PM, Hancock, WI
July 17 – Rhinelander State Farm Field Day, Lelah Starks Elite Found. Seed Farm, Rhinelander, WI
August 20 – UWEX Langlade County Airport Field Day, Antigo, WI
August 25-27 – Wisconsin Farm Technology Days, Statz Bros., Inc. Farm, Sun Prairie, WI

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Veg Pathology Webpage: http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/wivegdis/.

Late blight updates: Nationally, in the past week, there were no new diagnoses reported at www.usablight.org. So far in 2015, there have been confirmations of late blight (US-23) in FL, CA (US-11), and TX (not reported on usablight.org/strain not yet identified).

Current P-Day (Early Blight) and Severity Value (Late Blight) Accumulations (R.V. James, UW-Plant Pathology/R.V. James Designs): A P-Day value of ≥ 300 indicates the threshold for early blight risk and triggers preventative fungicide application. A DSV of ≥ 18 indicates the threshold for late blight risk and triggers preventative fungicide application. Red text in table below indicates threshold has been met/surpassed. NA indicates that information is not available. Blitecast and P-Day values for actual potato field weather from Grand Marsh, Hancock, Plover, and Antigo are now posted at the UW Veg Path website at the tab "P-Days and Severity Values." http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/wivegdis/contents_pages/pday_sevval_2015.html

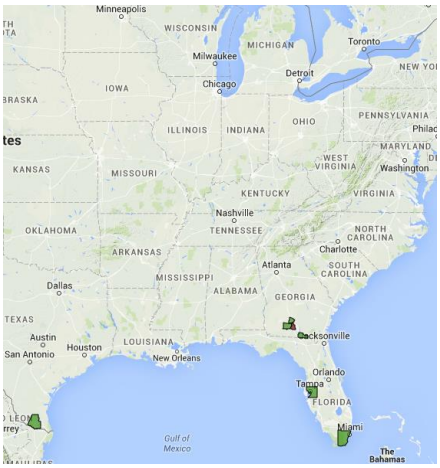
Location	Planting Date	50% Emergence	P-Day Cumulative	Disease Severity Value	Date of DSV Generation	Increase in DSV from last week
Antigo	Early 4/25	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Mid 5/5	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Late 5/15	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Grand Marsh	Early 4/5	5/10	**94**	**16**	5/27	13
	Mid 4/15	5/15	**84**	**15**	5/27	13
	Late 5/1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hancock	Early 4/10	5/15	**84**	**11**	5/27	8
	Mid 4/20	5/18	**59**	**11**	5/27	11
	Late 5/5	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Plover	Early 4/15	5/15	**85**	**14**	5/27	11
	Mid 4/25	5/22	**45**	**11**	5/27	11
	Late 5/10	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Further details on registered fungicides for WI vegetables can be found in the Univ. of WI Commercial Vegetable Production in WI Guide A3422, http://learningstore.uwex.edu/assets/pdfs/A3422.PDF. Disease indicator/forecast tools provide information based on pathogen ecology to help make management decisions. No tool replaces field scouting and disease observations.

Potato Early Blight Preventive Management: P-Days have nearly doubled over the past 5 days and are now ranging from 45-94 depending upon location and date of crop emergence. Under very warm conditions, we can accumulate up to 10 P-Day values per day. As such, we may be 2-3 weeks away from reaching the threshold of P-Day of 300 for early planted/emerged potato fields in most of Wisconsin. This is a little early compare to the 'average year.' It is typical to reach P-Day of 300 for early/mid planted crops on/around July 1st. Currently, the earliest planted potato fields in southern Wisconsin are nearing row closure. While the early blight complex pathogens may not yet be fully active, the application of preventive fungicides prior to/at row closure is often justified at this time because the open canopy allows for optimum application of fungicides to protect the most mature and susceptible foliage in the lower potato canopy.

Late Blight Preventive Management: Based on the Blitecast, we are nearing the DSV 18 threshold in early planted/emerged fields in the Grand Marsh area at this time. This threshold indicates that environmental conditions have been met to promote late blight disease activity. At 18 DSVs, the recommendation for preventive applications of effective late blight fungicides is made. An additional alert is issued when the first symptoms of late blight appear anywhere in the state. The determination of late blight management recommendations is made by taking into consideration DSVs, projected weather forecast, and presence/risk of inoculum.

Cucurbit downy mildew updates: There was one new report of cucurbit downy mildew in the US in the past week in Cook County, Georgia on cucumber. Earlier this season, locations in TX, GA, and FL also confirmed cucurbit downy mildew. The website: http://cdm.ipmpipe.org/ offers up to date reports of cucurbit downy mildew and disease forecasting information. I will continue to include the pertinent updates and risks in this newsletter throughout the production season.



Green counties indicate locations of older reports (>7 days ago); red county indicates location of newer report (≤7 days ago) of cucurbit downy mildew in the U.S. in 2015. Map sourced from http://cdm.ipmpipe.org/ from 11:23AM May 28, 2015.

Further information on cucurbit downy mildew: http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A3978.pdf