

In this issue:

1. *Impatiens Downy Mildew – Will it affect vegetables?*

Impatiens Downy Mildew is in Ohio – Will it Affect Vegetables?

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Impatiens downy mildew has been found in greenhouses in Delaware, Wayne and Holmes counties in the last two weeks. It is a very serious disease that is causing severe losses in affected greenhouses and requires intensive scouting, removal of diseased plants and an aggressive fungicide program to keep it under control. This “strain” of downy mildew is specific to impatiens and will NOT cause downy mildew in vegetables. The downy mildew strain that infects cucumbers and other vine crops usually comes into Ohio about the end of June. For more information on impatiens downy mildew, see the following excellent resource: www.endowment.org (American Floral Endowment).

The Ohio Plant Diagnostic Network is working to determine how widespread impatiens downy mildew is in Ohio. Please send suspect impatiens samples for confirmation to the C. Wayne Ellett Plant & Pest Diagnostic Clinic, 8995 E. Main St., Bldg. 23, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. Northeast Ohio producers may send or drop off samples to the attention of Dr. Sally Miller, Dept. Plant Pathology, OARDC, Wooster, OH 44691.



Note fuzzy white growth on undersurface of leaves.

