

In this issue:

1. Frost Potential
2. Check your pumpkins

Potential for Frost this weekend

Vegetable growers should be prepared to protect or finish harvesting of sensitive vegetables. Clearing on Saturday night and Sunday will combine with light winds to allow temperatures to drop to the lower 30s and possibly affect the entire region of central and southern OH with frost formation. Portions of northern OH will have some cloud cover which should provide some protection but growers should pay attention to local forecasts later this week.

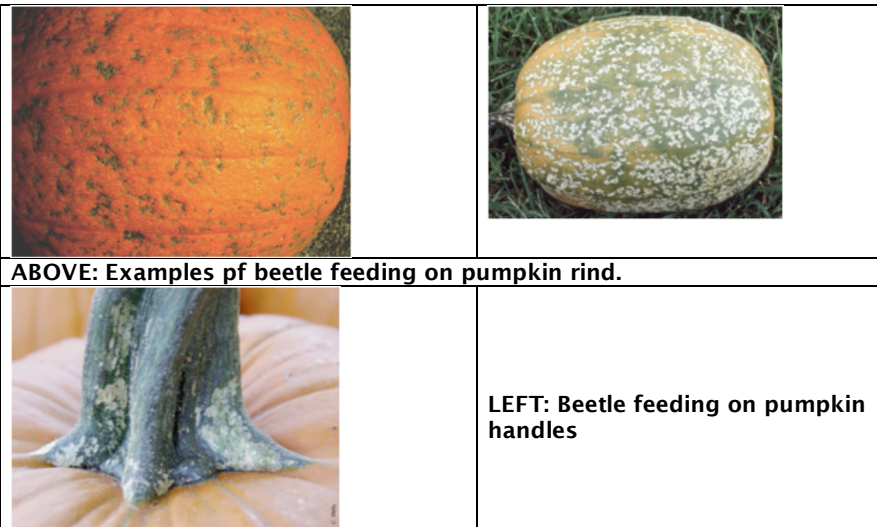


Frosty into the Carolinas *From Accuweather*

As the cold air dives southward into the central and southern Appalachians, there is a better chance for a more widespread frost across the higher elevations of eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina than points farther north. The simple reason is that with all the cloud cover and precipitation across the mid-Atlantic, there won't be enough clearing and radiational cooling for widespread frost to form. Therefore, with less cloud cover and precipitation, areas that stand the greatest chance for widespread frost lie farther south. Residents from Hickory, N.C. to Bristol, Tenn. will experience low temperatures Saturday night within a few degrees of the freezing mark. There can even be some air temperatures in the 20s at the highest spots of western North Carolina. Residents across the Tennessee Valley can save sensitive plants from the impending frost or freeze by either covering or bringing them indoors.

Check your pumpkins

If you still have pumpkins in the field, scout them for damage to the rind caused by cucumber and corn rootworm beetles. Activity is high in some fields and several beetles can be found crawling on the fruit. **Beetles will feed on the rind of mature green and ripe fruit. Damage can happen in as little as two days. Scout fields late in the season especially after light frosts. If control is needed, see recommendations in the 2011 OH Vegetable Production Guide, pp 234-237. Be careful of bee activity in newly formed flowers.**





ABOVE: Spotted cucumber beetle (left) and Striped cucumber beetle (right)



Western, Northern, southern (spotted) corn rootworm as well as striped cuke beetle all feed on and cause damage to pumpkin rinds