

Powdery Mildew and Virus on Pumpkins

It's the last week of July and as predicted, the first powdery mildew of the season was found on pumpkins at a location in east central OH. See the "Problem Of The Week" at the VegNet website. Symptoms first appear as pale yellow spots on leaves, stems and petioles. These spots enlarge, become covered with white spores and appear powdery. Infected leaves gradually turn yellow and then brown. Consult the 1997 OH Vegetable Production Guide for control recommendations or the Disease Control section in The Pumpkin Patch at the VegNet website.

Virus symptoms on pumpkin leaves and small fruit started appearing this past weekend in the Columbus area and last week south of the city. In Columbus, about 10 to 15% of the foliage is showing symptoms which appears to be similar to watermelon mosaic virus infections we have had in previous years.

Vegetable Disease Update

R. M. Riedel

More On Angular Leaf Spot

Warm temperatures and heavy rains favor development of Angular Leaf Spot. Symptoms begin as water soaked spots which enlarge to tan or white lesions bounded by major leaf veins. This gives the mature lesion angular corners, hence the common name for the symptoms. Bacteria oozing from leaf lesions will infect pumpkin fruit and causing small circular, water soaked spots in the rind. This can lead to fruit rots later in the season. Control is difficult. Fixed copper can be added to spray programs to slow development of the disease. However, many varieties of pumpkin are sensitive to copper and foliage damage may result from frequent applications of copper.

The causal agent of this disease can be seed borne. Growers should not save seed from infected fruit. The bacterium can overwinter in field soil. Fields with severe disease problems should not be replanted to vine crops for 2 years. As reported last week, it has been confirmed on pumpkins in both northern and southern OH and also in IL, IN and other midwest states. For a description of symptoms see Problem of the Week or Week 2 of My Pumpkins Are Bigger Than Yours at the VegNet website.

Septoria Leaf Spot on Tomato.

As predicted last week, the warm and moist weather in early July has favored development of this disease which now has been confirmed in commercial plantings and the home garden at the beginning of this week. Symptoms (circular tan spots with dark borders) will develop first on the older (lower leaves) and then appear on progressively younger leaves. If uncontrolled the entire plant can be defoliated.

Symptoms can also develop on stems and petioles. The fruit is not directly affected by this disease.

Septoria Leaf Blight is not adequately controlled by chlorothalonil or mancozeb. Benomyl added to either of these material will control the problem. Quadris (azoxystrobin) has given very good control of this disease in test plots here. See label for rates of application. See 'Problem Of The Week' and the 'TOMCAST' page for pictures and more information on this disease.

Veg Insects: European corn borer
C. Welty

Increased numbers of European corn borer moths caught in traps starting last Thursday (7/24) indicate that the second generation of this pest has started emerging in northern and central Ohio. Peppers can be protected from attack by corn borer larvae by insecticide sprays starting now and repeated at weekly intervals as long as moths are laying eggs, which is usually for about 4 to 6 weeks. Chemical choices for corn borer control on peppers include Orthene, Pounce, or Baythroid. Sweet corn in the silking stage can be protected by sprays at 5-day intervals; pyrethroids (Pounce, Baythroid, Warrior) or carbamates (Larvin, Lannate) are usually used. Corn borer moth catches in blacklight trap last week were 39 in Fremont (Sandusky Co.), 0 in Erie Co., 72 in Henry Co., 120 in Wood Co., 72 in Henry Co., and 120 in Wood Co. Pheromone trap catches last week were 5 in Fremont and 7 in Columbus.

Variegated cutworm:

Pheromone trap catches in standard unitraps last week (mean of 3 traps per site) were 4 in Columbus, 1 in Hillsboro, and 3 and 5 at Gibsonburg. Increased moth activity means that tomato fields should be scouted for cutworm damage. Cutworm larvae climb plants and chew on leaves or fruit at night, then hide in soil during the day.

Corn earworm:

Pheromone trap catch was 0 last week in Columbus, Hillsboro, Gibsonburg, and Xenia (Greene Co.). As long as corn earworm moths are not active, sweet corn growers can concentrate their efforts on European corn borer, which requires less intensive control than corn earworm.

TOMCAST and BLITECAST Update
DSV Hotline 800-228-2905
Jim Jasinski

TOMCAST DSV, BLITECAST SV, Report.

As of July 29, information concerning TOMCAST DSV, BLITECAST SV, and rainfall for the previous 7 days will be given in that order for each station below:

Ohio Freshmarket:

Claridon-54, 47, 0.09"
Hillsboro-78, 71**, 0.81"
Racine-95 DSV as of July 18
Ohio Processing:
Fremont-88, 45, 0.46"
Tipp City- 88, 42, 0.51"
Napoleon- 114 DSV as of July 28
Pandora- 110 DSV as of July 28
Indiana Processing:
Hobbs- 90, 52**, 0.08"
Kokomo- 78, 36*, 0.29"
LaCrosse- 85, 56*, 0.85"
Union City- 86, 23, 0.54"
Michigan Processing:
Constantine- 66, 18*, 1.08"
Petersburg- 74, 53**, 0.12"

* Stations currently under a Late Blight warning. If fields have not been treated in previous 7-10 days, scout for the presence of the fungus and treat if necessary.
**Stations within 1 or 2 severity values away from Late Blight Warning. To this date, Late Blight has not been detected in OH, IN, or MI.

Insect Trap Reports

Tipp City, OH - 2 Variegated Cutworm Moths captured in pheromone traps as of July 30.

Petersburg, MI Monroe County,(P. Marks), European corn borer pheromone traps, 3 traps,

July 28: 0, 0, 0;

July 22: 0, 0, 0;

July 15: 0: 0, 2;

July 8: 2, 0, 1;

July 1: 3, 22, 11.

Variegated cutworm pheromone,

July 28: 6;

July 22: 7;

July 15: 9;

July 8: 6;

July 1 5. 4

Information concerning TOMCAST DSV and BLITECAST SV can be found on DTN & FarmDayta networks under both the Ag and Produce sections

Crop Reports

Hal Knen

South Central Ohio - Meigs County report

Rainfall at a critical level for unirrigatable acreage, especially sweet corn. No rain since July 2. No European Corn borer or Corn earworm moths caught in helio traps this past week. When will the next flight come? Tomato harvest is finally coming along. Mostly large to extra large fruit on Mt. Spring, Sunbeam, PikRed, and SunStart. Non irrigated and sandier ground grown tomatoes are smaller, medium to large in size. Catfacing and blossom end rot have been since in certain fields. Peppers are being picked for the market. Most are jumbo and extra large in size.

What's New At The VegNet Web Site

My Pumpkins Are Bigger Than Yours - Week 2

A weekly peek at our pumpkin patch. Check out our vine growth, fruit set, fruit size and more. Get a look at problems we are facing or just enjoy how much our pumpkins have grown. Also, each week, we offer some timely growing tips. Check It Out at the VegNet website!

In Problem Of The Week, see:
Powdery Mildew-Pumpkins and
Septoria Leaf Spot on Tomatoes.

More On TOMCAST and Early Blight Visit TOMCAST

Return to Vegetable Crops Homepage Ohio State University Extension

We appreciate very much the financial support for this series of vegetable reports which we have received from the board of growers responsible for the Ohio Vegetable and Small Fruit research and Development Program. This is an example of use of Funds from the "Assessment Program".

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