

Late Blight in Erie County, PA
Randy Rowe

Late blight has been found in southern Erie County PA on 2-3 potato cull piles. The growers have killed the piles with herbicide, but the spores may have been distributed. This is quite early to find late blight as most of the potato crop is not even emerged. (Source: Muza)

Borer Management in Sweet Corn
Celeste Welty

Emergence of European corn borer moths was lower during the past week than the previous week, but we assume that borer moths will remain active for another week and continue laying eggs on corn with preference for the tallest corn available. In our blacklight trap at Fremont, the number corn borers caught per week was 485 moths from 5/14 to 5/20, and 57 moths from 5/21 to 5/27.

On extra-early sweet corn, corn borer can need different management than on normal-early corn. Extra-early includes any corn that is silking when corn borer moths are still active (as detected in traps). Corn borers infest this extra early corn as they usually do in late summer: they do not infest leaves and tassels but rather they lay eggs on ear leaves and invade the ears during silking. To manage them, spray insecticide when silks appear and every 5-7 days during silking.

Normal-early sweet corn begins silking after the corn borer moth flight has ended (probably in early June this year). For normal early corn, the best management strategy is to scout when the tassels are pushing up from the whorl; spray insecticide if at least 10% of plants are infested. In theory this spray to emerging tassels is the only treatment needed, but in reality additional sprays might be needed at 5-7 day intervals during silking if larvae are still found in the tassels once silks appear. The most common way borers enter the ear of normal-early corn is by dropping from the tassels to the silks; some also enter through the husks or the shank.

For normal-early corn, an alternative is to treat with granular insecticide during the whorl stage if appropriate application equipment is available. Foliar sprays applied during the whorl stage are not usually very effective.

Insecticides for sweet corn pests:

Timing of application is usually more critical than choice of an insecticide product, but there are differences among chemicals in their efficacy against specific pests. Pounce and Penncap-M are more effective on European corn borer than on corn earworm. Asana is the opposite: more effective on corn earworm than on European corn borer. Larvin, as well as the newer products Warrior and Baythroid, seem to be

equally effective on both pests. Keep in mind that pyrethroids (Pounce, Asana, Warrior, Baythroid) are less effective at high temperatures than at low temperatures, whereas carbamates (Larvin, Lannate, Sevin) and organophosphates (Penncap-M, Diazinon) are not affected by temperature. Products available in granular formulations for application to whorl-stage sweet corn are Pounce 1.5G, several B.t. products (DiPel 10G, M-Peril, Full-Bac 4.7G, Condor-G), Lorsban 15G, and Dyfonate II 10G or 20G.

Postemergence Weed Control in Sweet Corn

With all the dry weather in many parts of northern OH, and some very wet areas in southern OH, preemergence herbicide applications are likely to suffer or may not have been even applied. While there is quite an arsenal for post emergent weed control in field corn, the post-emergent herbicide list is quite short in sweet corn. Vegetable growers need to rely on both pre and post emergence applications for adequate weed control. A few points to remember are: Partner/Micro-tech (Lasso) and Dual will not control emerged grasses (Loux). The amount of atrazine in Bicep, Bullet can be too low to control emerged grasses (Loux).

While there are several named premix combinations of atrazine and other herbicides labeled for use in sweet corn, vegetable producers need to be aware and remember that they are applying atrazine at rates which can affect subsequent crops and planned rotations with other vegetables. One of the rotational crop restriction for all uses of atrazine states do not plant sugar beets, tobacco, vegetables (including dry beans) spring-seeded small grains or small seeded legumes and grasses the year following atrazine application or injury may occur. Postemergent herbicides for sweet corn include: Basagran, early post when weeds are small and actively growing. It can burn back yellow nutsedge, but little or no control of annual grasses. Laddok, 2 to 2.5 pts/A (0.62-0.78 lb ai/A each of basagran plus atrazine), apply early postemergence when weeds are small and actively growing. See the label for the best time to control specific weeds. Do not use during periods of extended cold, wet weather. Atrazine plus oil, emergency treatment only, for emerged annual and broadleaf weeds that are 1-1.25 inches high. See label for rates or pg. 142 of 1998 OH Vegetable Production Guide. Must follow with corn next year. Atrazine restrictions (all uses): apply before corn exceeds 12 inches in height. Do not apply more than 2.5 lb/A/season. Follow set-back requirements from water sources as stated on the label. See the label for all restrictions.

Crop Reports

Bill Evans, Hal Kneen, Ron Overmyer

SouthEast.

The first summer squash of the season was cut this week. Early fruiting tomato varieties like Sunleaper, Sunstart and PikRed are forming fruit half dollar to silver dollar size. There is good flowering and fruit formation on all tomatoes. Staking, trellising, suckering and side dressing are the main production activities. The

Tomcast DSV's reached 26 as of May 26. Most growers have applied their first fungicide application and looking for weather window to apply the second. Some plastic sweet corn has started to tassel in several locations as of May 25 and it is predicted that we should have our first OH sweet corn in just 2-3 weeks.

European corn borer larvae have been sighted and spraying has begun. Later plantings look good also.

Peppers are growing slowly. Buds are now forming and flowering is expected soon.

Insect Trap reports:

ECB - 11 moths from May 19 - 25.

CEW - 4 moths from May 19-25.

Yellow/green pheromone: 2 variegated cutworms moths from May 19-25.

NorthCentral

Dry is the word in the Celeryville muck; less than an inch of rain in the last 20 days.

The muck needs watering before seeding and transplanting can occur. Upland ground is getting dry, too. Pepper and squash planting continues.

Parsley cutting from overwintered crops has started. Collard, kale, mustard, turnip greens, dill, cilantro, and radishes are being harvested. Lettuce is close. Early sweet corn is in the five leaf stage, about 8" high. The spring lettuce cultivar trial has been transplanted on the branch.

The Envirocaster onion downy mildew model indicates sprays have been needed during these last few cool days. The onion leaf blight model has not recommended spraying. The potato early blight and late blight models have just been reset for the branches crop of potatoes. Greens and corn have significant flea beetle populations. A few aster leafhoppers have been found. Carrot weevil eggs have been found in parsley petioles.

NorthWest.

One company indicated that they were about 60% to 65% planted for processing tomatoes as of last Friday. The transplants in the field look the best they have ever looked for 3 or 4 years. They just took off as soon as they were planted.

The early cabbage planting is completed and looks fine. The later cabbage was suffering from the dry conditions before the weekend.

TOMCAST Report

Disease Severity Value (DSV) Hotline -1-800-228-2905

Jim Jasinski

What's New At The VegNet Web Site

Visit: "The Problem of The Week" For Pictures of...

Botrytis on Pepper Transplants. View pictures of both foliar and stem lesions on pepper seedlings plus some general comments on probable cause.

Late Blight on Tomato Transplants

White Rust of Brassicas

Early Views of Vegetable Crops from SE Ohio, (Sweet corn on plastic + squash)

Check Out the New Look of the Tomcast Section (requires your browser to be able to view frames.)

+ A New Tomato Research Report by C. A. Wyenandt, R. M. Riedel, M. Bennett and C. Welty.

From The Vegetable Crops Planner: Links now provided to the National Weather Service Offices in Cleveland and Wilmington, OH. Provides Agricultural Observations, soil temperatures, climate summaries, growing degree days and much more.

1998 Ohio Vegetable Production Guide - Online. Visit: "The Library

Return to Vegetable Crops Homepage Ohio State University Extension

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