VegNet Vol. 5, No. 20 and 21. August 6, 1998 Ohio State University Extension Vegetable Crops

Powdery Mildew found on Pumpkins (R. M. Riedel)

Powdery Mildew was found on Howden pumpkins at the Waterman Farm in Columbus this morning (7.30.98). Growers should begin to apply mildewcides for control of this disease now. Benlate or Nova should be added to the basic chlorothalonil or mancozeb spray program. Bayleton if it is still available can be used if it is applied with chlorothalonil in a tank mix.

Insect News Celeste Welty

#### European corn borer:

The second generation continues to be negligible. Our blacklight trap at Fremont caught only 6 corn borer moths in the past week, which is up slightly from the previous 3 weeks when we've caught 3 to 4 moths per week. Reports are similar from 4 blacklight traps run by Elf Atochem cooperators in northwest Ohio, although one in Henry County reported a surge this past Monday. At this time of year we usually trap hundreds of moths per week. In pheromone traps during the past week, we caught 7 mopths in Columbus and 2 moths in Fremont. Pepper growers who follow a preventive spray schedule should go ahead with their first application but we are probably safe in using a 10-day interval rather than the usual 7-day interval between sprays as long as the low moth catches continue. Corn earworm (=tomato fruitworm) has been absent in traps in northern Ohio but present in low numbers in central Ohio; catches in pheromone traps in the past week were 1 in Columbus, 0 at Fremont, 0 at Gibsonburg (Sandusky County). In tomato fields, activity of variegated cutworm moths has been tapering off at Columbus (down to 28 per trap per week from peak of 110 per week in early July) and Sandusky County (down to 8 moths per trap per week after peak of 14 moths per week in late July). In tomato fields, damage from stink bugs is continuing to increase, and there are scattered reports of light infestations of hornworms. The fruitworm infestations that were detected in many tomato fields several weeks ago are no longer present.

Fall armyworm infestations in sweet corn are reported this week from Meigs County. This is the messy pest that feeds in whorls and tassels. It has a white y-shaped mark on its head. Keep in mind that Asana, Pounce, and Ambush are generally not effective against this pest, while Larvin is effective (Ohio 24C label) and Warrior is reported to be effective. Virus has just appeared in our research plots of pumpkins and gourds in Columbus during the past week. It is confirmed as watermelon mosaic virus by ELISA tests. Our water pan traps have detected increased activity of winged aphids during the past 2 weeks, so secondary spread of virus may occur rapidly. In our recent aphicide test on pumpkins, Metasystox-R gave better aphid control than Thiodan.

# Website for Agricultural Migrant Labor Information Ron Overmyer

I received notification from Benito Lucio that a special section has been added to the OBES website for agricultural migrant labor. The website address is; www.state.oh.us/obes/

Under the menu, click on - Services to Agriculture-Migrant Labor-Bilingual.

## **Crop Reports**

David Francis, Thom Harker, Hal Kneen and Bill Evans

### Midwest Processing Tomato Crop Report:

Midwest tomato processors will open factories between August 5 th and August 12 th. Growers began to apply Ethrel during the last week of July. Early Production has been affected by heavy rains in the southern production areas and by dry conditions in Northern production areas. The yield for the early season harvest is estimated to be in the 23 to 27 T/A range. Bacterial Speck and Bacterial Canker have been confirmed in several locations in Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio. Septoria has been reported in Ohio. Fruit quality appears to be good to excellent.

#### NorthCentral

Today (Thurs) is the second day in a row we've counted 5 ECBs in our pheromone trap after weeks of zeros. One CEW today, too. Crops in C-ville benefited from an all day .70 inch rain Wednesday. Crop quality is recovering after the last storm 15 days ago. Pepper harvest has begun. The last of the lettuces for the season are being planted this week. Blast is common on green and dry onions. Bottom rot and yellows are infecting lettuces. Rhizoctonia is not too serious in the radishes at this time. Some Septoria on parsley. SouthEast

Harvest continues in fresh market tomato as "Sunbeam" and "Sunbrite" varieties are in full production. Beautiful fruit and very little cracking. Drier harvest weather has improved fruit quality. Trickle irrigated fields are seeing top fruit cluster grow into salable fruit size. Local growers are considering an increase in trickle irrigation. Tomato prices have fallen into \$5-\$6 and lower prices. Availability is still limited. Several growers are closing up operations for the year as early blight is reducing fruit quality and labor is leaving to attend county fairs and school. Sweet corn is coming to an end for early season growers and it has been a good year. Three growers of mid and late season corn have noticed increased ear damage due to corn borer and birds. Muskmelon and watermelon are being harvested and are of good quality and flavor. The crop is mostly for local sales. One vendor has sold 600-800 each week since early June. Bacterial wilt and Alternaria leaf spot have been the main problems. Peppers are doing fine and some fresh market types are turning red. Orange and yellow types expected soon. Some purple peppers have been sent to market for \$8 per peck. Some late season crops now being planted including beans, peas collards beets and turnips. Insect Trap Reports for the past week: ECB- helio 34, Jul 27-31= 33; CEW=1, Variegated cutworm=3.

#### SouthEast

Harvest continues of cabbage, cantaloupe, and sweet corn. Tomato harvest will begin next week. Verticilium wilt was found in a planting of oriental eggplant. There is considerable bird and animal damage in melons and tomatoes. Also, Septoria leaf spot is reported on many tomatoes. Bacterial wilt is still a problem in melon fields treated with furadan and under a regular spray program.

Proceedings on Plasticulture Workshop Now Available G. Hochmuth

A workshop on plasticulture was held recently in Charlotte, NC. The proceedings from that workshop is available from The American Society for Horticultural Science, 600 Cameron St., Alexandria, VA 22314-2562. Contact Teresa Alfaro at ASHS, email is talfaro@ashs.org or simply ashs@ashs.org and the phone is 703-836-4606 and the fax is 703-836-2024. The cost is \$20 plus \$3 domestic shipping or \$5 international shipping. It is a good, comprehensive book on all aspects of vegetable plasticulture including the components of the cultural system, irrigation design and management, chemical injection, fertigation design and management, fertilization rates and schedules, production in high tunnels and row covers, stand establishment, wind breaks, plastics use for pest control, weed management in plasticulture, handling and cooling plasticulture crops.

TOMCAST Report Disease Severity Value (DSV) Hotline -1-800-228-2905 Jim Jasinski

What's New At The VegNet Web Site

In The Pumpkin Patch, JULY 1998, My Pumpkins Are Bigger Than Yours Returns, See: Bacterial Wilt. Angular Leaf Spot and Crop Status.

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

Septoria Leaf Blight and Phytophthora Blight of Tomato.

Angular Leaf Spot, Buckeye Rot and Phytophthora Blight of Cucurbits.

Timber Rot and Hail Damage.

The Meigs /Washington Vegetable Tour from SE Ohio, (Sweet corn, tomatoes + peppers) Check Out the New Look of the Tomcast Section (requires your broswer 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 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".

Where trade names are used, no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Ohio State University Extension is implied. Although every attempt is made to produce information that is complete, timely and accurate, the pesticide user bears the responsibility of consulting the pesticide label and adhering to those directions.

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