

Insect Update  
Celeste Welty

Tomato scouting at several sites has shown increased stink bug damage on fruit during the past week. Stink bug feeding causes a cloudy spot in the fruit flesh either with or without golden blotches on the surface of fruit. Potato aphid is infesting the young growth of tomatoes in some fields. Pumpkins showing virus symptoms are reported from many parts of Ohio, even where a rigorous insecticide program has been used.

During the past week, European corn borer moths are being caught in greater numbers than in the previous 10 weeks but are still far below normal. Our blacklight trap at Fremont caught 31 borer moths in the week ending today, and 10 moths in the previous week. Catch of borer moths in pheromone traps was 5 at Columbus (down from 7 the previous week) and 2 at Fremont (down from 25). Degree-day calculations indicate that we could have a third generation flight starting in about 1 to 2 weeks. If the third generation does develop, it could be a serious threat to peppers and late sweet corn. [ See southeast crop report where it appears 3rd generation has started.]

Corn earworm (tomato fruitworm) moths are being detected in higher numbers this week than during the previous few weeks. Sweet corn can be protected by a 4- to 5-day insecticide schedule during times that corn earworm moths are active (see p. 139 of Ohio Veg. Production Guide for further info). In pheromone traps for the past week there were 11 moths at Columbus (up from 6 the previous week), 2 at Fremont (up from 0); 1 and 3 at Gibsonburg, Sandusky County (); and a mean of 2.9 in Darke County, where 9 traps ranged from 0 to 19 moths (up from mean of 1.7 the previous week).

Variegated cutworm moths are still being detected in pheromone traps but in lower numbers than earlier at most sites. Mean trap catch was 13.7 at Columbus (down from 16.3), 6 at Fremont (up from 0), 2.8 at Gibsonburg (down from 8.2), and 2.9 at Darke County (down from 10.4). Even at our site with highest moth catches, there is little sign of cutworms infesting ripening fruit.

Crop Reports

Brad Bergefurd, Thom Harker, and Bill Evans and Hal Kneen

NorthCentral

Weather has been fairly dry, just a couple small showers. Aphids, thrips, and whiteflies are present. Corn earworms and European corn borer catches continue at a slow to moderate rate each day. Morning dews and fogs, common this time of year, have meant an increased attention to fungicidal sprays. The summer lettuce demonstrations have been harvested. It appears many of the standard varieties for this area survived the stresses the trial went through better than most newer entries. No romaines tolerated the flooding stresses early in their growth. Many endives did well. A couple of greenleaf lettuces not currently raised

here showed some promise and may compete well with the local standards. More formal results will be available later in the fall. Leeks, green onions/scallions, and parsley will continue to be evaluated this week. Fall trials of lettuce are in. Drs. Miller and Hoy have several fall projects in. The branch will be busier next month than in many past Septembers..

#### SouthWest

Harvest of all crops continues. Looks like there may be a gap in sweet corn harvest soon. Many calls still coming in regarding orange pumpkins ready for harvest. Early blight continues to be bad in tomato crops, bacterial wilt continues to show up on vine crops and pumpkins. Some areas received 1/10 to 5/10 inch rains this week. Horticulture Field Night on Monday evening went well!

#### SouthEast

Dry weather conditions continue across Meigs county. Some farms have less than 0.5 inches of rain fall in the past three weeks. Thunder showers are very scattered with some incidences of rain falling on only half of a production field. Most local tomato growers have opened their fields to homeowners to pick canning tomatoes. A good year for those growers who had tomatoes unaffected by hail and flooding. Trellis strings are being cut and stakes pulled in order to plow under the tomato vines in preparation of sowing a cover crop (barley, wheat or rye). Remaining sweet corn fields are under heavy infestations of armyworm and european corn borer. See trap report below. Pumpkins are the last major crop of the region. Yields are going to vary greatly due to weather conditions and poor initial germination stands due to heavy rains and seed quality at planting time. Insect Trap Report: ECB Helio: 64 since last week, Previous week: 7; CEW: 15 past 7 days, previous week-7 moths

#### 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 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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