

VegNet Vol. 5, No. 7. May 4, 1998
Ohio State University Extension Vegetable Crops

Early Edition.

This week, our newsletter is coming out earlier than normal because the recent cool, wet weather has caused two important problems to develop. We want to notify you about them as soon as possible. See the next two articles below. Pictures of these problems are available at the VegNet website.

Late Blight on Tomato Transplants

R. Riedel

Tomato seedlings infected with Late Blight (*Phytophthora infestans*) were received in the PPDC 5.1.98 from a commercial grower in southern Ohio. Infected seedlings may have been distributed to garden centers and supermarkets around the state. The varieties affected would be used in the home garden, not for commercial production of tomatoes. However, commercial producers of potatoes and tomatoes should be warned that infected plants in home gardens could serve as sources of inoculum for commercial fields within a one or two mile radius of the gardens. Weather for Late Blight development has been excellent in recent weeks. If cool, moist weather continues fungicide programs for control of Late Blight in commercial tomatoes and potatoes should be started early. EBDC fungicides, chlorothalonil, and mefanoxam are labeled for control of Late Blight on commercial crops. Fixed copper fungicides can be used in the home garden and commercial production. Fixed copper fungicides alone are generally not considered to be especially effective for control of Late Blight in commercial fields. Visit "Problem of the Week" at the VegNet website to look at the infected tomato transplants with Late Blight.

White Rust on Leafy Brassicas and Spinach (Riedel).

R. Riedel

White Rust (*Albugo* sp.) is showing up on weed mustards in central Ohio. This indicates that the weather conditions and time is appropriate for this disease to begin to show up on leafy brassicaceous crops and others such as spinach. Chemical control is a problem because of lack of labels. Generally, fixed copper fungicides (eg. Kocide or NuCop) Aliette or Ridomil Gold will be used for control of White Rust on these crops if appropriate labels exist for the affected crop. Also, see the radish and spinach disease control sections of the 98 OH Vegetable Production guide. Visit "Problem of the Week" at the VegNet website to look at the infected plants with White Rust.

TOMCAST Alive and Well in 1998
Jim Jasinski

The disease forecasting network for processing and fresh market tomatoes, TOMCAST, is once again going to predict disease development for Early blight, Septoria leaf blight, and Anthracnose for growers around Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. The network will have 14 stations this year in the following locations: Fremont, Tipp City, Napoleon, Pandora, McGuffey, *Hillsboro, * Racine, & *Claridon, OH

LaCrosse, Galveston, Hobbs, & Union City, IN
Petersburg & Constantine, MI

* Denotes fresh market sites

The network is scheduled to be fully operational May 15th, and each station will report Disease Severity Values (DSV) through September 30th. The DSV's will be collected from each station Monday - Saturday, and made available in a variety of formats.

The DSV Hotline (800-228-2905) will be running again this year. It is a tape recorded message which provides the most current DSV's for each station 24 hours a day.

Additionally, weekly precipitation at each station and other information about insect activity or Late Blight alerts may also be given periodically.

DSV information will also be disseminated over the world wide web on a completely revamped TOMCAST home page (www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~vegnet/tomcats/tomfrm.htm). Recently updated information about TOMCAST and detailed reports of all daily DSV for each station will also be available. We are currently setting up to transmit our DSV data to both DTN and Farmdayta networks, under the same areas as last year for both the Produce and Field Crop packages.

There will also be comments relative to seasonal developments right here, through the VegNet Newsletter on a weekly basis.

For more detailed information of how to use TOMCAST, please refer to the Processing Tomato Chapter in the 1998 Vegetable Production Guide, or contact Jim Jasinski at 937-454-5002 or via e-mail Jasinski.4@osu.edu. A copy of the most recent guidelines are online and available at the new TOMCAST home page.

Best of luck to you during this El Nino growing season!

Crop Reports
W. Evans and T. Wall

Northcentral

..Soils warming up nicely and sweet corn planting continues. Most planting schedules have moved along nicely although it has been quite wet in the last few days. Radish harvest to begin this week. Flea beetles are a problem.

South.

Asparagus growth has picked up a little. Cool cloudy days slow growth. Asparagus beetles have been laying eggs and there has been some cutworm activity in a commercial field. Several warm, sunny days in a row will be needed to increase daily harvests.

What's New At The VegNet Web Site

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

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

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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