

The Signs Read: "Home Grown Ohio Sweet Corn".:

Driving through Washington County yesterday, I came across these roadside signs in a few locations. Ohio's largest and most popular fresh market vegetable is now available. As I said last year, you can't beat locally produced Ohio sweet corn for flavor and quality. One grower started picking small amounts last Friday and this week, more growers started around Tuesday with larger pickings. Some corn is also being picked in Meigs County. All this corn was produced under clear plastic mulch with plantings from around late March to early April. Right now most production is for local consumption. As we entered one grower's farm around 10 AM, there was about a 4 foot pile in the front of the roadside market. By the time we left about 1.5 hours later, that pile was more than half gone. Some larger fields of plastic corn are expected to come in early next week and wholesale shipments will begin to northern OH. If you can't wait, take a drive down to Washington and Meigs counties.

Insect News:

C. Welty

Sweet corn insects:

In many parts of Ohio, we are entering one of the easiest times of the season for managing caterpillars on plantings that are just starting to silk. It is easy because we are between generations of European corn borer, and corn earworm moths are not active at locations where we have traps. Early plantings getting close to harvest might still need treatment if first generation European corn borer larvae are still dropping from tassels to silks, or in locations where corn earworm moths were active several weeks ago. Corn in whorl stages should be scouted for fall armyworm, a sporadic pest that can show up at any time of the summer. Fall armyworm is a messy feeder easily found by scouting.

Squash vine borer moths have been trapped in squash plantings in Columbus and in Sandusky County. We are using a pheromone lure in a bucket-style unitrap placed close to the ground.

Problems and Pest news:

Spider Mites

This pest is starting to show up in many locations around the state. I found them on the edge of our pumpkin plots in Columbus and on several vine crops in various locations in Washington county. See Ron Becker's crop report from Wayne county below for more information. Growers should keep monitoring this situation.

Cuke beetles

cucumber beetle feeding continues especially on newly emerged plantings.

Pepper Fruit Set

In parts of southern OH, pepper fruit set on sweet bell peppers seems to be very light. In many cases, the only fruit visible is the king fruit. Some of this can be attributed to the widely varying temperatures causing blossoms to fall off. One week, daytime highs were in the upper 90's and the next week, nighttime lows were in the low 50's to upper 40's.

Crop Reports

R. Becker, B. Bergefurd, W. Evans, T. Harker,

SouthEast and The Washington Meigs Vegetable Tour

Approximately 60 people (three wagonloads) attended the twilight vegetable tour at The Witten Farm yesterday. In attendance were mostly growers, seed company representatives, and suppliers. Stops on the tour included plastic sweet corn near harvest, staked tomatoes about 5 -7 days away from harvest, zucchini which was first picked on May 28, peppers, melons probably only about 10 to 14 days from being ready and raspberries. In the region, some tomatoes are being picked in Meigs County. Some bacterial spot was seen on a few tomatoes but was not widespread. Stewart's wilt is showing up in sweet corn as well as a lot of Maize Dwarf Mosaic virus. The biggest problem is the lack of rainfall and irrigation crews and equipment are getting tired. More people are using trickle but need to work out some bugs to get the systems running efficiently.

North Central:

Dry weather has returned this week to Celeryville. The 1- 1.5 inches of rain we had last week is all but used up. Irrigation has resumed around the clock. None of our dryland vegetables has begun to show drought stress but some area field corn has begun to blue and curl during hot afternoons.

Weed pressure has slowed as the soil dries but continues on irrigated fields.

Corn borer and cutworm numbers are low this week. Growers should scout for spider mites as some gardeners and berry growers are reporting mites. Some Stewarts wilt in corn and cucumber beetles in squash are being seen.

Some herbicide damage to processing tomatoes was observed in northwestern Ohio on June 18th. By the 23rd, plants had begun to grow out of it. New leaves did not show the strap- like leaves with white margins seen last week. We are also seeing leafhoppers and some aster yellows virus on lettuces and thrips on green and dry onions.

From Wayne County:

Although there are other insects active in the vegetables, the two most pressing at this time are corn borer and two spotted spider mite.

Corn borer has been treated for in several fields of tasseling corn with infestation up to 18%. Egg masses are also being found on pepper plants as well, though no worms have been found on the peppers so far. The peppers are just starting to bloom.

Two spotted spider mite is being found heavily in green beans and moderately in watermelons. We also expect to find them in tomatoes and eggplants this week as the weather conditions get drier and hotter.

Although predators are working on them, the numbers of mites and eggs present are more than they can handle.

Other insect being found in various crops are potato leafhopper, cucumber beetles, cabbageworms (imported, loopers and diamond back), flea beetles (including striped flea beetle), grasshoppers, potato beetles and aphids.

SouthWest:

From Wed, 16 Jun 1999. Tomato spotted wilt virus has shown up in a tomato field in Clinton county. Early Sweet Corn is in full tassle. Cabbage harvest continues. Zuchinni and summer squash harvest continues. Cucumber harvest continues. Planting of melons, squash, cabbage, sweet corn, pumpkins, late tomatoes continues.

Cucumber beetle pressure seems to have lightened up after the rains.

Most south west/central arease received anywhere from .5 to 2 plus inches of rain over the weekend [12 &13 Jun] and Monday. Some localized areas received marble sized hail with scattered areas receiving much damage to crops. There are still many areas that only received 3/10 rain or less.

TOMCAST Report

J. Jasinski

DSV Hotline -1-800-228-2905

TOMCAST is a tomato disease forecasting network which many growers find aids in their timing of fungicide applications. As of June 24, the total TOMCAST DSV, are given for each station below:

The current stations and DSV counts as of June 24, 1999:

If you have further questions, please contact: J. Jasinski
at 937-454-5002 or
jasinski.4@osu.edu

The 7-10 Day Outlook*

Temperature:

From 24 Jun to 29 Jun, the mean surface temperature will be in the 70's F for all of OH.

From 29 Jun to 04 Jul, the mean surface temperature will be 70 - 80 degrees F for all the southern two thirds of OH and 60 to 70 degrees fro the nothern one third of OH.

Precipitation:

From 24 Jun to 29 Jun, expect about 1.0 to 1.5 inches in the eastern half of OH, with more rainfall due to thunder showers in the western half of OH.

From 29 Jun to 04 Jul, expect about 0.5 to 1.0 inches for all of OH.

From 24 Jun to 29 Jun, most of the precipitation will come from thunderstorms and rainfall levels can vary widely in the affected areas.

[Editors Note: Long term precipitation forecasts (5 days or more) are much less accurate than short term (the next 4 to 5 days)..]

What's New At The VegNet Web Site

>> Impatiens Necrotic Spot on Pepper Transplants

Research Reports

1998 se Sweet Corn Variety Trial

1998 Fresh Market Cabbage Cultivar Evaluation

1998 Fresh Market Vegetable Reports from the Enterprise Center at Piketon.

1998 Colored Pepper Cultivar Trial

1998 Fresh Market Tomato Cultivar Evaluation

Evaluation of Eastern Style Muskmelons for Southern Ohio, 1998

Mechanical Harvesting Regimes for Processing Bell Pepper Production in Ohio

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.

1999 Ohio Vegetable Production Guide - Online. Visit: "The Library

>> 1998 Pumpkin Yield Data is Here!...Plus the First Set of Pumpkin Pictures

See how your favorite varieties performed.

Check out new varieties.

View Powdery Mildew Tolerance ratings

plus the effects of spray programs on pumpkin production. More pumpkin pictures coming.

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.

Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Keith L. Smith, Director, Ohio State University Extension.

All educational programs and activities conducted by Ohio State University Extension are available to all potential clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex, age, handicap or Vietnam-era veteran status.