

VegNet Vol. 6, No. 15, July 1, 1999  
Ohio State University Extension Vegetable Crops

Problems and Pest news:

Bacterial Wilt in Melons

Muskmelon vines with fruit are starting to show symptoms of bacterial wilt. This disease is caused by cucumber beetle feeding which enables the bacteria to enter the plant. Usually part of the vine completely wilts down for no apparent reason but usually beetle feeding scars can be seen near the crown of the plant. For symptoms, see Problem Of The Week at the VegNet website.

Pepper Fruit Set

A survey of about 6 to 8 fields in Meigs county indicates that fruit set is very light there also on bell peppers. Hungarian wax and other hot peppers do not seem to be affected as much as the bell peppers. In many cases, the only set is one or two fruit per plant and some have none. As mentioned last week, some of this can be attributed to the widely varying temperatures causing blossoms to fall off. This area had a week of, daytime highs that were in the upper 90's and the following week, nighttime lows were in the low 50's to upper 40's.

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.

Summer Vegetable Field Days:

July 6, Horticulture Field Night at Piketon Research And Extension Center  
1864 Shyville Rd.,  
Piketon, OH 45661

Program includes VegNet Demonstration, Compost for small fruit and Vegetable, Drip irrigation demonstration, Irrigation scheduling, Cover Crops in vegetable production.

For complete details and directions, contact: Tom Wall at 740-289-2071

Mark your calendars for the following dates, More information to follow in later weeks

July 29, Muck Crops Day, Celeryville

August 5, Processing Tomato And Vegetable Crops Field Day in Fremont, OH

August 12, Horticulture and Crop Science Field Day, Columbus

August 16, Horticulture Field Night, Hillsboro

### Crop Reports

R. Becker, B. Bergefurd, W. Evans, H. Kneen, and T. Harker

#### SouthEast

Weather still extremely dry with showers of only about 0.25 inches occurring through the county on Sunday and Monday. Many fields missed this rain. Trickle and overhead irrigation going overtime 24 hours a day. Some fields going dry. Tomatoes and sweet corn are coming in strong. The major tomato diseases seen are just a little early blight in one field despite rapidly accumulating DSV's. There is no disease in most tomato fields

Melons are sizing up with some watermelon 8-12 inches long and cantaloupe about 6 inches.

Trap counts ECB from 6/23 to 6/30 = 8. Corn earworm = 0.

Pumpkins are tough to get started because it is too dry for seedlings. Irrigation is going to higher value crops.

#### North Central:

We are seeing significant tarnished plant bug damage on romaine lettuce. Brown spots on midribs with some appearing to have been eaten into. OSU entomologists suggest controlling tarnished plant bugs with Warrior T (1 day PHI) or Thiodan (14 day PHI), with the latter better in warmer weather when pyrethroids are less effective. Some corn earworms were trapped over the weekend. Onion thrips are present but not at threshold. A few aphids are being found. Leafhoppers are abundant, but aster yellows incidence remains low.

Celeryville had 1.6 to 2.4 inches of rain Sunday, all in a few hours. The ground was dry enough to handle almost all of the rain. Very little standing water remains as of Tuesday morning and plowing resumed Monday afternoon on the muck. Crops look good. Summer squash harvest has begun, as has wheat harvest. Weeds will begin growing in earnest after this weekend's rain.

At the Muck Crops Branch, the lettuce germplasm trial of Dr. Kleinhenz is winding down. Quality has been good to excellent and a couple of entries have shown significant promise. The sweet corn is tassling and a couple of entries are silking. With dry soils, blossom end rot may be a significant problem on peppers and tomatoes this season. Anything growers can do to maintain even soil moisture levels will help reduce the problem.

From the June 28 Firelands Farmer: The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is encouraging growers to work with local agencies for the needy to glean damaged or unsalable crops. This can be a win-win situation for growers and their communities. Growers wishing to open a field to gleaning volunteers should contact their local Farm Service Agency office.

From Wayne County:

Total rainfall for the weekend varied considerably in Wayne County with some areas receiving less than a tenth and others over an inch. The lack of rain in some areas is adding to the problem of two spotted spider mites that are invading many crops. Threshold levels were detected in water melon fields Insect activity also includes an increase in aphids and flea beetles - up to threshold levels in several tomato and pepper fields.

Potato leafhopper is causing problems in bean, eggplant and potato plantings that were not treated with Admire. The nymphs are now present. Thrips are also another insect that seems to be invading everything from sweet corn to flowers. In flowers, they are feeding heavily on the leaves as well as blossoms. European corn borer is being sprayed for in silking corn as well as a few fields not yet tasseling Other insects also being found are flea beetles, cabbage worms, cucumber beetles, squash vine borer adults and squash bugs and eggs.

Bacterial wilt is showing up in melons and cucumbers

Our earliest sweet corn will be ready to pick next week, green beans are starting to come into the produce auction and peppers and eggplants are starting to set fruit.

SouthWest:

Got some rain Monday and Tuesday. Sweet corn and green bean harvest began this week. Yellow squash and cabbage, also cucumbers and zucchini harvest continues. Planting of sweet corn and pumpkins continues. Some melon planting continues. Cucumber beetle pressure is increasing. Second planting of sweet corn is starting to tassel.

Hillsboro Corn Borer- 0 moths

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 July 6, the total TOMCAST DSV, are given for each station below:

The current stations and DSV counts as of July 7, 1999:

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

What's New At The VegNet Web Site

>> The Washington/Meigs Vegetable Tour

If you didn't make the tour, take the virtual tour. The Washington-Meigs Annual Twilight Vegetable Tour was held June 23. at Witten Farms, Take the virtual tour and see sweet corn, tomatoes, melons and more.

>> Visit "Problem Of The Week"

This week see:

Command Carryover Damage on Tomatoes

Bacterial Wilt in Melons

Drought Conditions

>> A New Section to VegNet

This week see our newest section: Vegetable Pest Trap Summary

Here you can review the trap counts of various pests from around the state.

You can get to it from the main homepage.

>> 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.

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