

Insect News: Corn earworm is here!
Celeste Welty

Corn earworm:

Late sweet corn is likely to be heavily infested with corn earworm larvae if control measures are not being taken this week. There has been a large increase in the number of corn earworm moths caught in traps in the past 2 weeks, with especially large catches during the past weekend (5-6 August). Catch of earworm moths in pheromone traps in the past week was 57 at Meigs County, 315 at Clark County, 125 at Franklin County, 4 at Wayne County, 6 at Summit County, 16 at Huron County, and 2 and 5 at Sandusky County.

Corn earworm moths lay eggs directly on the silks, and eggs can hatch in as little as 2 days when weather is hot, as it is currently in Ohio. Insecticide needs to be sprayed more often to control this pest when it is present in large numbers. As detailed on page 217 of the 2000 Ohio Veg Production Guide, the earworm population is considered to be high density when there are 90 or more moths per week caught in a pheromone trap; the population is moderate density when there are 6 to 90 moths per week, and low density when there are less than 6 moths trapped per week.

When daily high temperatures are above 80 degrees F and thus silk is growing rapidly, insecticide should be applied every 3 days if earworm populations are high (>90 per week in trap) or every 4 days in populations are moderate (6-90 in trap). When daily high temperatures are below 80 degrees F and thus silk is growing more slowly, insecticide should be applied every 4 days if earworm populations are high (>90 per week in trap) or every 5 days in populations are moderate (6-90 in trap). Earworm control is important as soon as a sweet corn planting begins to show fresh silk. The first spray should be when 10% of the plants show silk, when earworm moths are at moderate or high density. The first spray should be when 25% of the plants show silk, when earworm moths are at low density.

When choosing an insecticide, remember that European corn borer is also at a critical time for control now, so use a product that is effective for both pests, such as Larvin, Baythroid, or Warrior. Pounce, PennCap-M, and SpinTor kill borer well but are weaker on earworm. Asana kills earworm well but is weaker on borer.

European corn borer:

The adult (moth) stage of this pest remains active. Ron Becker reports that eggs are being found on sweet corn and peppers in Wayne County. The number of corn borer moths caught in our blacklight trap at Fremont was 205 during the past week, which is about the same as the previous week. This might be the peak or it might still be before the peak. Catch of corn borer moths in pheromone traps in the past week was 13 at Gallia County, 10 at Meigs County, 34 at Clark County, 14 at Franklin County, 1

at Wayne County, 9 at Summit County, 53 at Huron County, and 18 and 5 at Sandusky County.

An important question on pepper pest management is whether or not we are likely to have a third generation of corn borer this year. Over the past 10 years that we've monitored the corn borer population with a blacklight trap at Fremont, there have been 5 years with only two generations and 5 years with three generations. Earlier this summer we seemed to be ahead of schedule for heat unit accumulation and a third generation seemed likely, but temperatures lately have been closer to 'normal' with cooler nights, and it now is looking less likely that we will have a third generation. There could be a partial third generation, at least in southern Ohio. As mentioned in a previous VegNet, Ohio now has a 24C label that allows pepper growers to use 4 applications of Orthene rather than 2. It had been suggested to use 2 Orthene applications for the first 2 sprays against second generation borer, and use 2 applications for the first 2 sprays against third generation. Given the uncertainty about third generation, growers might want to use all of the applications to control second generation with a plan to use an alternate material such as SpinTor or Baythroid or Pounce if there is a third generation. Good news for corn borer management, especially in northern Ohio, is that there can be significant mortality of young larvae from heavy rains. If the crop survives the recent floods, the corn borer infestation might be somewhat lighter than usual.

Vegetable Field Days

Pumpkin field day, Tuesday, August 15th OARDC Western Branch

The Pumpkin field day held at the OARDC Western Branch, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. The Western Branch is located on S.R. 41 south of I-70. We will be showing our trap crop and cucumber beetle threshold research trials to the growers of Southwest Ohio.

State specialist's Drs. Mac Riedel (plant pathology), Celeste Welty (entomology), and Bob Precheur (horticulture) are scheduled to be on hand to give informal presentations and answer any questions visitors may have. Visitors will be encouraged to walk around and inspect the plots.

Horticulture Field Night, Monday, August 21, 2000, 6:00 p.m. until dark, Southern State Community College (main campus), 200 Hobart Dr., U.S. 62 north of Hillsboro, Come and view more than 500 research and demonstration plots and 12 different fruit and vegetable projects, including Genotype and Climatic effects on quality, yield and marketability of Specialty Colored Pepper... Muskmelon... Seedless Watermelon... Watermelon... Fresh Market Tomatoes... Hot Peppers... Cabbage, Ornamental Corn Germplasm Evaluation, Vegetable Weed Emergence Study, Pumpkin Cultivar Evaluation and Powdery Mildew Resistance Ratings, Control of Fungal Pumpkin Disease on Pumpkin, Control of Fungal disease on Bell Pepper * New Produce Marketing Opportunities * Fruit and Vegetable Internet sites and web page demonstrations* "Ask the Experts"- Other Growers, University and Industry Personnel will be available for questions and updates. Supper for everyone!!! For more information, contact:Brad Bergefurd,

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Crop Reports

Hal Kneen, Ron Becker and Bill Evans

SouthEast:

Scattered thundershowers continue to roll through the area drenching some areas and missing other regions. Summer harvest continues as tomatoes continue their upward price spiral and sweet corn continues to be in short supply. Melon crop is varied as rainy weather continues to haunt growers, especially those who planted in wetter fields. Demand is still high for melons.

Tomato fields continue to yield if proper protective fungicides were applied on a regular basis. Yields have been excellent and quality exceptional up to this point in time. Later planted tomatoes for late summer harvest are looking good and setting fruit.

Sweet corn fields are having to be sprayed for corn earworm on a 3-4 day interval as moth flight counts dramatically increased late last week in helio traps. Ten fold increase from 5 caught in a week to 57 moths caught in first 3 days of trapping.

Continue to disc under corn fields as soon as harvest completed, helps in reducing bird damage, by reducing bird numbers attracted to rest of the fields. Pumpkin crop continues to grow rapidly. Site and spray program determines the current severity of diseases especially powdery mildew. Low lying fields with little air flow and poor or lack of spraying fungicides are having a tough time surviving. Disease pressure is intense.

Wayne County

All fields of squash and pumpkins now have mildew in them. Squash bugs have been hatching, but little damage has been noticed so far. The tachnid fly I found a month ago is still working on the squash bugs as most of the adults I find have the egg of the fly on the side of the abdomen. Spider mite outbreaks are becoming more common, with most being found in cucumbers, eggplant, watermelon and green beans. Rust is very heavy in the sweet corn, but so far the quality of the ear remains good. Moth flights for both earworm and corn borer are going up and we are starting to find damage from both corn borer and fall armyworm in late planted corn that is not yet in tassle. Peppers are also starting to show some corn borer damage to the pods. Silk clipping in the sweet corn is light to moderate by both rootworm beetles and Japanese beetles. Bean leaf beetle is being found on all crops in general, though not at damaging levels. Some tomatoes are developing a condition called gray wall. The fruit has a blotchy ripening effect and the wall inside the fruit develops a gray ring around the fruit. The tomatoes are slow to ripen as it is due to the cooler night time temperatures we have been having. Several plantings of fall planted cabbage are also having problems with cabbage maggot.

North Central

Celeryville had some tough weather over the weekend. High winds and a bit of hail ruined some leaf goods (lettuces, greens) and blew down some corn. We missed the heaviest rains so flooding was not as big a concern. All crops except winter squash are being harvested now. Quality was excellent on many crops before the weekend and remains so for most things. Weed pressure remains high due to intermittent rains and warm temperatures. Aphids, leaf hoppers, corn earworms, European corn borers, onion thrips, and variagated cutworms are being found at the Muck Crops Branch. Rust is significant on sweet corn and some smut is being seen. Foggy, dew filled mornings continue to indicate the need preventative disease control programs. On one recent day, a local grower wisely removed his harvest crew from a field of a particularly susceptible crop during a drizzly afternoon to reduce disease spread and crop damage. While not always possible, practices such as this can have benefits later in the season through increase crop health and product quality. Crops such as tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, snap beans, parsley, celery, and those in the squash and onion families are particularly susceptible to diseases spreading across wet foliage.

TomCast Report
K. Scaife

At Fremont,. The total DSV's as of 9 Aug are 80. Last week, 2 Aug: 69 DSV's. .

What's New At The VegNet Web Site
Pumpkin Production Chart

Originally available only in the print version of the 2000 Ohio Vegetable Production Guide, this WEB version can be found in "The Pumpkin Patch" The chart is a quick guide and timeline to key factors necessary for a successful pumpkin crop.

Another NEW! VegWeb Fact Sheet.

Table on Susceptibility of sweet corn hybrids to Stewart's Bacterial Wilt as rated by Jerald Pataky (Univ. of Illinois). Adapted by Dr. Celeste Welty, Extension Entomology, OSU Columbus. This table was published in last week's VegNet Newsletter. A WEB edition is now available from the VegNet homepage. More information on Stewart's wilt and its history in Ohio will be available soon.

Vegetable Faculty WEB Pages.

Dr Matt Kleinhenz has recently posted his faculty webpage. At the site you can find his research projects, results and review his presentations made this past winter. A link from VegNet will be provided soon. To visit Matt's homepage, go to:

<http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/kleinhenz/>

From Dr. Brent Rowell, Univ of KY,
email: browell@ca.uky.edu

Our new KY Vegetable Recommendations book is on the web now. A print version is also available. The introductory section on marketing might be of interest to southern OH tobacco growers.

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/id/id36/id36.htm>

The marketing section is also available as a separate publication.

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/id/id134/id134.htm>

Visit: "The Library, Online Edition of the 2000 OH Vegetable Production Guide, NOW AVAILABLE.

The OH Vegetables Production Guide ranks #22 in top downloads from OSU Extension Ohioline with over 1,000 downloads. Most of the new features are available in the online edition including the New Insecticide Efficacy tables. The new Pumpkin Production Chart is not there but I hope to have it posted soon in "The Pumpkin Patch" section of the VegNet website.

NEW! VegWeb Fact Sheets.

This new feature offers some valuable information on certain aspects of vegetable production that you can print out directly in your home or office. The first two are by Dr. Mac Riedel, OSU Plant Pathology, and are available from the VegNet homepage.

Fungicides Labeled for Pumpkins

Confused by the many new fungicides now available for pumpkins. Check out this fact sheet to see how to use these fungicides.

Fungicide Activity For Control of Tomato Diseases Which fungicide is best for a particular tomato disease.

Available from the Vegetable Crops Homepage, [Click Here!](#)

The 1999 Pumpkin Review and Slide Show.

Yield Data plus pictures of pumpkin cultivars from this year's trials. Also, see pumpkin varieties rated for powdery mildew resistance. There are many new and interesting pumpkin varieties in all size categories.

Visit: 'The Pumpkin Patch' for pictures and yield data.

The 1999 Green Pepper Evaluation and Slide Show.

Yield Data Slide Show From The Muck Crops Branch at Celeryville,

From The Enterprise Center

Comparison of Disease Control on Fresh Tomatoes using TOMCAST and SKYBIT to Time Fungicide Applications.

Evaluation of Watermelon Cultivars for Southern Ohio, 1999

1999 Ornamental Corn Evaluation

Evaluation of Eastern Style Muskmelons for Southern Ohio, 1999

[Link To Research Summaries From The Enterprise Center at Piketon.](#)

[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.

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