

Late Season Pumpkin Problems Showing Up  
R. M. Riedel

1. I found Downy Mildew on Pumpkins in Champaign Co. last night. The weather conditions are perfect now for development of this disease so I expect that growers elsewhere in OH will be finding it soon. Symptoms of the disease are yellow lesions on the upper leaf surface and a downy, white to slightly purple fungal growth on the lower surface. The disease does not directly affect fruit but it will destroy foliage quickly. If growers need to keep foliage either to size the fruit or to protect fruit from sun burn, fungicides will have to be used. Quadris or Flint will control the disease. Chlorothalonil (Bravo, Echo) will not without the addition of a material such as Ridomil Gold.

2. Microdochium Blight of Pumpkin has been found in Highland, Miami and Champaign Co. recently. It is severe at all sites. First symptoms of the disease are small, whitish- tan spindle shaped lesions on the veins on the under side of the leaf. Lesions will be found on stems and fruit later. Good spray programs using Quadris alternating with Bravo/Nova or Bravo/Benlate do not seem to have kept the disease under control. A mancozeb-type fungicide added to the spray program may help.

Sap beetles in sweet corn ears  
Celeste Welty

The dusky sap beetle (*Carpophilus lugubris*), the picnic beetle (*Glischrochilus quadrisignatus*), and the corn sap beetle (*Carpophilus dimidiatus*) are the most common species of sap beetles that infest sweet corn ears just before harvest. Sap beetles are best known as secondary pests that invade ears via tunnels made by European corn borer or other caterpillars, but they can sometimes be primary pests where no caterpillars precede them. The adult stage of these beetles is most commonly found in sweet corn, but sometimes their larvae can be found feeding in kernels. The larvae hatch from eggs laid in insect frass (feces) and piles of shed pollen. Larvae are about 1/4 inch long, yellowish white with a brown head and with a small brown plate at their rear end. Adults of the picnic beetle are about 1/3 inch long, black with four square yellow marks. Adults of the dusky sap beetle are about 1/6 inch, and dull black without markings. Adults of the corn sap beetle about 1/8 inch, and reddish black or brown/yellow without markings.

Sap beetles are affected by the insecticide program as well as by two cultural control practices: variety selection and post-harvest plowing. Choosing varieties that have good tip cover is important because sap beetles prefer to attack varieties with exposed tip kernels. Plowing under crop debris after harvest helps by destroying the best overwintering sites of sap beetles. Plantings that are on a regular insecticide

spray schedule for caterpillar control during silking are usually not infested with sap beetles. If there are weeks when a field of silking corn does not need to be sprayed for caterpillars, then the field should be scouted for sap beetles; this sometimes happens in early to mid-July. A 5-day spray schedule during silking is advised if sap beetles are detected above threshold. A threshold of 10% of ears infested is used in the northeastern states, and a threshold of 5% of ears infested is used in the middle Atlantic states. The broad-spectrum insecticides such as Pounce, Warrior, Baythroid, Penncap-M, Lannate, and Sevin should all control sap beetles. The B.t. insecticides such as DiPel kill only caterpillars and will not kill sap beetles. Sap beetles can be important pests in fields of Attribute (B.t.) corn where insecticides are not needed for caterpillar control.

## Crop Reports

Hal Kneen ,Brad Bergefurd and Thom Harker

### SOUTHEAST

From Sept. 4;

Sweet corn and tomatoes continue to be picked. Increase in corn pests are being noticed. Cooler temperatures are encouraging more morning fog and later into the morning fog. Pumpkins which have not had a good spray program are quickly losing their leaves to powdery mildew and other pumpkin diseases.

From August 29:

Scattered rains have yet to hit certain areas of the county and are delaying the removal of tomato stakes and the planting of cover crops. Very scattered rainfall this past week as the Letart area received almost no rainfall, while some areas near Pomeroy received 2-3 inches of rainfall. Irrigation lines have been set up and run so tomato stakes may be removed from the tomato fields. Fall cleanup and sowing of cover crops are already beginning. Later season tomato growers are happy about the excellent yields and high quality fruit being produced.

Most sweet corn growers wished that they had continued with later corn plantings. This year demand is still high and insect levels are low.

Third picking of peppers is occurring.

Several growers are considering more vegetable crop diversification this coming year.

### SOUTHWEST

From August 28:

Harvest of all summer vegetable crops is still in full swing. Supply is tight and prices have been high for zucchini squash, yellow squash, and fresh market cucumbers.

Non Bt. sweet corn plantings are being infested with corn borer and corn earworm. Bt sweet corn plantings, planted around the 4th of July are tasseling and silking, and are looking very good in terms of being worm free. Vine crops are being hit pretty hard with virus symptoms and powdery mildew. Growers not on a fungicide program are seeing severe powdery mildew infection. Microdochium blight is very severe in many pumpkin fields, especially where short rotations with pumpkin crops have occurred. Pumpkin plots at our Hillsboro and Ripley sites are showing

signs of Microdochium infection and for many growers this is the worst disease in their plantings. Cucumber beetle pressure seems to be increasing on vine crops and bacterial wilt continues to be a problem in melon, cucumber and pumpkin plantings. Squash vine borer has caused some damage to some Giant pumpkin plantings and squash fields. PUMPKIN harvest has begun. Prices at the Bainbridge auction ranged \$2.00 - \$2.25 for 14 to 18 lb pumpkins last week. Giant pumpkins (50 lb. to 60 lb) ranged \$25-\$30 a piece. Some pumpkin fruit are showing severe virus symptoms with green streaks and mottling. Growers are reporting that yields on pumpkins may be down as much as 50% . There seems to be an early fruit set but then there are many small newly set fruit, that will probably not make it, and no fruit in between. This lack of fruit set and late fruit set is being contributed to the high nighttime temperatures, above 65 degrees F, during the main 3 week fruit setting time of many pumpkin plantings. These high night time temperatures caused pumpkins to produce mainly male blossoms and very few female blossoms, resulting in decreased fruit set and yield. This lack of fruit set because of high night temperatures also occurred in southern Ohio pumpkin plantings during the 1995 season. Early May planted pumpkins do not seem to be as affected, even though they have been orange for the past 3 weeks. Late May to late June planted pumpkins seem to be the hardest hit in terms of poor fruit set. Green bean harvest continues with some varieties getting some slight rusting. Rainfall amounts have ranged from .5 inch to 3.0 inches the past week. The Beaver receiving station for Processing Red Bell Pepper is expected to begin taking pepper this week. So far the processing bell pepper crop looks good for fields that were timely planted, many plantings were delayed due to over 8 inches of rain that fell from Mothers Day weekend until Mid June. Processing red bell peppers are typically planted in southern Ohio May 18 to 28. Many growers HAND PLANTED fields to stay within this window. Growers with late planted fields are hoping for a late frost to make up for the delayed planting dates. Demand for fresh market peppers has been good with prices averaging somewhat below last year. Fresh market tomato harvest continues with high demand and average prices being reported by growers. Early blight pressure remains high in tomato plantings.

#### MOTH TRAP REPORTS (~8/28 to 9/4)

C. Welty

corn earworm, pheromone trap

Meigs County (Racine): 14 (down from 18 last week)

Miami County (Troy): 275 (up from 162 last week)

Franklin County (Columbus): 115 (down from 294 last week)

Wayne County (Wooster): 15

Sandusky County (Fremont-South): 47 (up from 17 last week)

Sandusky County (Fremont-West): 75 (down from 30 last week)

Wood County (Hoytville): 22 (up from 1 last week)

European corn borer, pheromone trap

Meigs County (Racine): 7 (up from 6 last week)

Miami County (Troy): 57 (down from 64 last week)  
Franklin County (Columbus): 33 (up from 17 last week)  
Wayne County (Wooster): 8  
Sandusky County (Fremont-South): 3 (down from 61 last week)  
Sandusky County (Fremont-West): 24 (up from 12 last week)  
Wood County (Hoytville): 1 (down from 2 last week)  
European corn borer, blacklight trap  
Franklin County (Columbus): 5 (down from 24 last week)  
Sandusky County (Fremont-South): >19 (down from 102 last week)  
fall armyworm, pheromone trap  
Franklin County (Columbus): 28 (up from 27 last week)  
Wood County (Hoytville): 61 (up from 8 last week)  
squash vine borer, pheromone trap  
Clark County (S. Charleston; mean of 2 traps): 0.0 (same as last week)  
Franklin County (Columbus; mean of 3 traps): 0.0 (same as last week)  
variegated cutworm, pheromone trap  
Franklin County (Columbus): 33 (up from 27 last week)  
Huron County (Celeryville): 12 (up from 7 last week)  
Wood County (Hoytville): 2 (up from 0 last week)  
black cutworm, pheromone trap  
Huron County (Celeryville): 17 (up from 2 last week)  
Wood County (Hoytville): 1 (down from 3 last week)  
true armyworm, pheromone trap  
Wood County (Hoytville): 0 (same as last week)  
Note: full season trap records are posted at: <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~ipm/traps/traps.htm> A link is provided from the VegNet homepage, just click on the Vegetable IPM button.

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#### The 7 Day Outlook\*

An upper level low that has plagued southern Texas over the past 7-10 days with rain totals from 3 to 12 inches is expected to move towards the Great Lakes. Possible areas affected will be southern and western OH. The system will probably go west of us and fronts are moving more rapidly through our area this time of year so this system is not likely to persist as it did in Texas. Pay attention to the weather around Sunday and Monday in order schedule spraying and harvest operations.

AKRON-CANTON

DAY DATE | FRI 07| SAT 08| SUN 09| MON 10| TUE 11| WED 12|

TEMP

MIN/MAX | 57 81| 61 75| 56 74| 56 75| 56 76| 57 74|

WIND | 6 10| 7 10| 6 8| 5 7| 5 8| 6 8|

PREC.

PROB. 24 | 29 | 57 | 53 | 37 | 35 | 40 |

CLEVELAND

DAY DATE | FRI 07| SAT 08| SUN 09| MON 10| TUE 11| WED 12|

TEMP

MIN/MAX | 59 82| 63 76| 57 73| 56 75| 57 76| 58 73|

WIND | 6 10| 8 10| 6 9| 5 8| 5 8| 6 8|

PREC.

PROB. 24 | 36 | 60 | 52 | 36 | 35 | 41 |

COLUMBUS

DAY DATE | FRI 07| SAT 08| SUN 09| MON 10| TUE 11| WED 12|

TEMP

MIN/MAX | 59 84| 63 80| 58 77| 56 79| 58 79| 59 77|

WIND | 3 6| 4 7| 3 5| 3 5| 3 6| 3 6|

PREC.

PROB. 24 | 36 | 59 | 51 | 37 | 36 | 40 |

CINCINNATI

DAY DATE | FRI 07| SAT 08| SUN 09| MON 10| TUE 11| WED 12|

TEMP

MIN/MAX | 62 82| 63 79| 60 79| 60 77| 60 78| 61 77|

WIND | 6 9| 6 8| 5 6| 5 7| 5 7| 6 8|

PREC.

PROB. 24 | 49 | 61 | 49 | 38 | 37 | 40 |

DAYTON

DAY DATE | FRI 07| SAT 08| SUN 09| MON 10| TUE 11| WED 12|

TEMP

MIN/MAX | 61 82| 62 77| 57 76| 57 77| 57 77| 58 75|

WIND | 5 9| 6 8| 5 6| 4 6| 5 7| 5 7|

PREC.

PROB. 24 | 48 | 62 | 49 | 37 | 37 | 41 |

TOLEDO

DAY DATE | FRI 07| SAT 08| SUN 09| MON 10| TUE 11| WED 12|

TEMP

MIN/MAX | 59 81| 62 77| 56 73| 54 75| 54 75| 55 74|  
WIND | 6 10| 6 10| 5 8| 5 8| 5 8| 7 8|  
PREC.  
PROB. 24 | 53 | 66 | 48 | 35 | 36 | 41 |

#### YOUNGSTOWN

AY DATE | FRI 07| SAT 08| SUN 09| MON 10| TUE 11| WED 12|  
TEMP  
MIN/MAX | 56 82| 61 75| 56 74| 53 76| 53 76| 55 74|  
WIND | 5 8| 6 8| 6 8| 5 7| 5 7| 6 7|  
PREC.  
PROB. 24 | 27 | 56 | 54 | 37 | 35 | 41 |

#### \* LEGEND:

TEMP MIN/MAX - forecasted minimum and maximum temperature for time periods midnight to noon and noon to midnight.

WIND - MEAN WIND SPEED(KTS) FOR TIME PERIODS midnight to noon and noon to midnight.

PREC. PROB. 24 - probability of precipitation for the 24 hour period.

#### What's New At The VegNet Web Site

Online Edition of the 2001 Ohio Vegetable Production Guide - Now Available

Sweet Corn Disease Resistance Ratings

The following are summarized lists of Dr. Pataky's work at the Univ. of IL on disease reactions of sweet corn. In these summaries, all experimental and processing varieties have been removed and only named varieties which were rated for common rust or MDM are included. The first list are those named varieties rated for common rust. The second list are only those named varieties rated for Maize Dwarf Mosaic virus (MDM). For a complete report, E-mail: Bob Precheur:

precheur.1@osu.edu

Common Rust of Sweet Corn

MDM of Sweet Corn

Do You Know Us?

Find out what we've been up to. The OSU Vegetable Team Report is available in PDF file format for downloading from the VegNet homepage.

Sources of Pheromone Traps Used in Vegetable Pest Management.

Do you need to find traps, lures or suppliers, click on the Vegetable IPM button on the left side of the homepage, then click on the 'Sources' document in the Vegetable IPM section.

IR-4 News

Also in the Vegetable IPM section, you can link to the IR-4 website. Read the results of the 2000 food use workshop, monthly and quarterly newsletters. Find out the latest on pesticide registrations for minor crops. Learn about biopesticides plus much more. Click on the Vegetable IPM button on the VegNet homepage and then click on the IR4 link in the Vegetable IPM section.

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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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