

Corn earworm alert

C. Welty

Corn earworm larvae are expected in young sweet corn ears this week unless a regular insecticide spray schedule is underway. Since last Wednesday (14 August), large numbers of corn earworm moths have been caught in traps at many Ohio locations, with heaviest numbers reported last weekend. The moths lay eggs directly on corn silks and eggs hatch in 2 days when weather is hot. Young larvae tunnel down the silks, feeding first on silks and later on kernels.

Trap report for corn earworm: In pheromone traps in the past week, cooperators reported 199 corn earworm moths in Meigs County (up from 9 the previous week), 78 in Clark County (up from 1), 78 in Miami County (up from 1), 277 in Franklin County (up from 1), 0 in Wayne County (Wooster commercial; same as previous week), 0 in Wayne County (Dalton; same), 0 in Summit County (same), 22 in Huron County (up from 0), 26 in Sandusky County south (up from 0), 87 in Sandusky County west (up from 2), and 16 in Wood County (up from 16). Weekly catch above 91 is considered high, while weekly catch between 7 and 91 is considered moderate. Silking sweet corn in southern and central Ohio, where earworm pressure is high, should be sprayed with insecticide every 3 days if temperatures are below 80F, or every 2 days if temperatures are above 80F. Silking sweet corn in northern Ohio, where earworm pressure is moderate, should be sprayed with insecticide every 4 days if temperatures are below 80F, or every 3 days if temperatures are above 80F. Complete guidelines for spray intervals during silking are found in the sweet corn chapter (page 219) of the 2002 Ohio Veg Production Guide.

European corn borer update

The European corn borer population is slightly on the rise at most Ohio locations as determined by numbers of moths caught in traps during the past week. At our highest-catching site, Hoytville (Wood County), peak moth catch was from 12 to 14 August. Peak moth activity should be accompanied by peak egg laying activity, so peak egg hatch is likely to be underway this week. It is thus a good time for pepper growers to use Orthene. Orthene is limited to only two applications per year, so these should be applied at optimal times when eggs are hatching. Sweet corn growers should base their spray schedule on corn earworm (see above), and the European corn borers will be controlled by the same schedule.

Trap report for European corn borer: the number of moths caught by cooperators in pheromone traps for European corn borer for the past week were 8 moths in Meigs County (up from 0 the previous week), 52 in Clark County (up from 33), 54 in Miami County (up from 37), 16 in Franklin County (up from 7), 0 in Wayne County (Wooster commercial; same as previous week), 2 in Wayne County (Dalton; same), 2 in Summit County (down from 3), 2 in Huron County (same), 22 in Sandusky County south (up from 1), 23 in Sandusky County west (down from 40), and 12 in Wood

County (up from 8). The number of European corn borer moths in blacklight traps in the past week was 45 in Franklin County (up from 33), >37 in Sandusky County (down from 111), and 336 in Wood County (up from 307).

Microdochium blight in Pumpkins

Mac Riedel and several sources, VA, IN, MI

Microdochium blight was found in Hillsboro this week. Microdochium blight or Plectosporium Blight is a little-known European disease that was first discovered in the United States in 1987 and found in Ohio a year later. Spurred on by warm weather and wet conditions, the disease can infect the entire pumpkin plant. Symptoms: Tan-to-white lesions develop on the stems and leaves, causing leaf defoliation and dry, brittle stems. Lesions quickly coalesce, causing the entire surface of the vine or leaf to turn white. Fruit lesions are more circular and less diamond-shaped. Spots on the flesh remain small and scattered; however the handle or stem stub on the pumpkin may be completely white at harvest. The lesions can coalesce to form a continuous dry, scabby surface. "It just makes the pumpkin completely unsaleable," said Riedel.

Disease Cycle: Plectosporium tabacinum occurs in soil and decaying plant material. Little is known about the disease cycle, but spores are most likely spread by wind and rain. The fungus causing this disease can be found on decaying plant material and it is soil borne. The fungus appears to favor lighter soils, surviving best at 2 to 4 inches. It does not appear to survive well below 15 inches.

Control: Control of Microdochium Blight will depend on the following:

Crop rotation - Don't follow cucurbit crops within 2 to 3 years.

Fungicides - Quadris and mancozeb seem to be most effective for control.

Applications probably should begin in mid to late July in most years in Ohio.

Deep plowing - Mixing deeper soil layers with surface soil may dilute fungus in the planting soil.

Mulches may help to prevent splashing of fungus from soil onto developing plants. This is an area of on-going research, however.

Wittmeyer Fund

Tom Sachs

The Wittmeyer fund is currently at \$23,475. The fund will be fully endowed when it reaches \$25,000. If we reach the endowed status soon, scholarships will be awarded in Spring 2003 for Fall 2003 use. Fund status is updated at the end of each month.

To check the OSU Endowment website, go to: https://rtrea-pc04.treasurer.ohio-state.edu/efundpublic/efundDescription/sta_rtpoint.cfm

This is the donation information: The Gene Wittmeyer Vegetable Endowment Fund, Fund #410395. Make check payable to the OSU Foundation. Send to: OSU College of Food, Agricultural, & Environmental Sciences, Office of Development 152 Howlett Hall, 2001 Fyffe Court, Columbus, OH 43210

The 7 Day Outlook*
By Robert Precheur

AKRON-CANTON

DAY DATE | THU 22| FRI 23| SAT 24| SUN 25| MON 26| TUE 27| WED 28|

NORMAL

TEMP MIN/MAX | 69 83| 62 79| 61 78| 62 80| 59 81| 61 82| 59 80| 59 79

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

PREC. PROB. 24| 40 | 18 | 36 | 47 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 35

CLEVELAND

DAY DATE | THU 22| FRI 23| SAT 24| SUN 25| MON 26| TUE 27| WED 28|

NORMAL

TEMP MIN/MAX | 70 82| 62 75| 62 77| 60 77| 60 80| 61 80| 62 79| 59 79

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

PREC. PROB. 24| 43 | 13 | 37 | 44 | 33 | 36 | 37 | 37

COLUMBUS

DAY DATE | THU 22| FRI 23| SAT 24| SUN 25| MON 26| TUE 27| WED 28|

NORMAL

TEMP MIN/MAX | 71 85| 66 86| 65 82| 64 81| 62 82| 63 85| 62 82| 60 81

WIND | 4 7| 2 4| 3 6| 3 6| 3 5| 3 5| 3 5| 4 6

PREC. PROB. 24| 48 | 33 | 45 | 47 | 35 | 35 | 36 | 33

CINCINNATI

DAY DATE | THU 22| FRI 23| SAT 24| SUN 25| MON 26| TUE 27| WED 28|

NORMAL

TEMP MIN/MAX | 70 88| 67 83| 66 82| 66 84| 64 83| 63 82| 63 81| 62 83

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

PREC. PROB. 24| 46 | 50 | 53 | 45 | 34 | 33 | 35 | 33

DAYTON

DAY DATE | THU 22| FRI 23| SAT 24| SUN 25| MON 26| TUE 27| WED 28|

NORMAL

TEMP MIN/MAX | 69 85| 64 82| 64 81| 62 82| 62 82| 63 83| 60 82| 60 82

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

PREC. PROB. 24| 52 | 38 | 50 | 44 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 33

TOLEDO

DAY DATE | THU 22| FRI 23| SAT 24| SUN 25| MON 26| TUE 27| WED 28|

NORMAL

TEMP MIN/MAX | 69 82| 58 79| 61 77| 59 77| 58 79| 59 80| 58 79| 57 80

WIND | 8 10| 4 6| 3 8| 4 8| 3 7| 3 8| 4 7| 4 7

PREC. PROB. 24| 63 | 11 | 45 | 38 | 30 | 34 | 35 | 33

YOUNGSTOWN

DAY DATE | THU 22| FRI 23| SAT 24| SUN 25| MON 26| TUE 27| WED 28|

NORMAL

TEMP MIN/MAX | 66 82| 58 78| 58 79| 59 79| 57 81| 58 82| 59 78| 57 78

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

PREC. PROB. 24| 34 | 14 | 32 | 47 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 36

* 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.

NORMAL - The normals for Saturday, August 24.

What's New At The VegNet Web Site

Problem Of The Week

A pictorial comparison of Squash Vine borer damage and Bacterial Wilt in pumpkins. While the symptoms are similar, there are some key differences. Check it out. Click on the 'Problem of the Week' button of the left side.

Highlights From the Pumpkin and Muck Crops Field Days

Couldn't make it to Celeryville on July 25th or forgot about The Pumpkin Field Day on August 7th, then take a look at just a few of the highlights from these two field days.

Click on the 'Talk Between The Rows' button on the VegNet homepage.

2001 Slide Presentations

Pepper Variety Slides 2001 | HTML Slide Show

Pumpkin Variety Slides 2001 | HTML Slide Show

Go to the Library Section under Research Reports.

VegNet Vegetable Schools

A series of slide presentations are now available in order to update you on the latest pumpkin and sweet corn research. We begin with 6 pumpkin topics in Pumpkins 101 and have 10 slide presentations available in Sweet Corn 101. In sweet corn.

Powerpoint presentations and html online slide shows are available now. Go to the VegNet homepage.

Pumpkins 101

The use of trap crops and Admire for cucumber beetle control and New varieties for 2001. We have presentations on cover crops for disease control and pumpkin fungicide use.

Perimeter Trap Cropping. Online html slide show | Perimeter Trap Cropping. PPT, 7 Mbytes

See also the Research Results section on the home page for text version of the report.

Pumpkin Variety Slides 2001 | HTML Slide Show

Sweet Corn 101

Presently only Powerpoint presentations available. Coming Soon: Online HTML slide shows. Check back often Nine topics including:

Aspects of Variety Selection based on Disease Control [ppt 40 KB]

Internet Link To "Reactions of Sweet Corn Hybrids to Prevalent Diseases" Dr. Jerald Pataky www.sweetcorn.uiuc.edu

Producing Early Sweet Corn [ppt 3.5 Mbytes]

Managing Weeds in Sweet Corn [ppt, 9 Mbytes]

Sweet Corn Herbicides & Variety Sensitivity. [ppt 2Mbytes]

Sweet Corn Development and Critical Periods for Irrigation Management [ppt 1.6 Mbytes]

Flea Beetle Management in Sweet Corn [ppt 510 KB]

How To Keep Worms Out of Sweet Corn Ears [ppt 8.3 Mbytes]

Role of Bt Transgenic Hybrids in Sweet Corn Pest Management. [ppt 21.2 Mbytes]

Bt Sweet Corn Efficacy in OH, 1999-2000 [ppt, 208 KB]

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