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MUCK CROPS RESEARCH STATION IPM 2013

This is the Muck Crops Research Station Report and IPM Information for July 18, 2013

Both stemphylium leaf blight and purple blotch have been found in all scouted onion fields. Growers should monitor their onion fields for symptoms of stemphylium leaf blight and purple blotch and spray their fields. Quadris Top, Fontelis, mancozeb (Dithane, Penncozeb and Manzate), Pristine, Lance, Cabrio, Inspire, Aliette, Scala and Switch are registered fungicides. For better disease management and to avoid resistance development, rotate between fungicide groups.

Thrips counts continued to increase in most onion fields in the marsh. Thrips count can rapidly reach to threshold level quickly in hot weather. Thus, monitor your fields for thrips regularly. The threshold for insecticide application is 1 thrips per leaf. Good spray coverage is crucial for thrips control.

With the current hot temperatures, growers should keep an eye for bacterial problems in all crops. A combination of warm weather and moisture from rain makes a good environment for bacterial infection, especially where plants have already been damaged from insects or other problems. Bacterial infections on onions and celery have been observed in fields around the marsh. Roguing out infected onions may help reduce the spread.

BOTCAST: The cumulative disease severity index (CDSI) for botrytis leaf blight is 26. Risk of botrytis leaf blight at this time is low to moderate. The first spray threshold is when the CDSI is more than 30 or when botrytis lesion count is 3/leaf.

The onion fly activity is moderate in all parts of the marsh. The count at our research station this morning was 1.2 flies/trap/day.

The carrot rust fly activity around the marsh is generally low. No carrot rust fly was caught on sticky traps at our at our research station. Thresholds are 0.1 and 0.2 flies/trap/day for fresh market and processing carrots respectively.

Aster leafhoppers numbers on sticky trap counts remain low to warrant insecticide spray. No symptoms of aster yellows have been reported on the marsh.

DOWNCAST predicted a sporulation infection period in the last 3 days. Taking into account the weather forecast and crop canopy size, risk of downy mildew on transplanted onions is moderate to high and low to moderate on seeded onions. Risk may increase if leaves remain wet for longer periods and the temperature cools down. No onion downy mildew has been report around the marsh.

Early blight (caused by *Cercospora apii*) and bacterial leaf spot have been confirmed in celery fields. Bravo, Echo, mancozeb (Dithane, Penncozeb and Manzate), Polyram and Pristine are registered for the management of early blight of celery.

BREMCAST predicted no sporulation infection period in last 3 days. Risk of downy mildew on lettuce at this time is moderate.

No rain fell between July 15 and July 17. The soil temperatures at the 5 and 10 cm depth are currently 26.6 and 25.2°C respectively.

ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Call Michael Tesfaendrias or Mary Ruth McDonald at 905-775-3783



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