

This is the Muck Station Report and IPM Information for Tuesday October 14, 2008.

Day time and night time temperatures will start to cool down this week with highs of teens.

A total of 3.8 mm of rain was accumulated between October 5 and 13.

Almost all of the onions in the Holland Marsh have been harvested. Remember that it is important that onions are dried, and then cooled properly for storage to reduce the risk of bacterial rots and Botrytis Neck Rot and to maintain quality. Onions can be dried at temperatures of 23 to 33°C (75 – 90°F). Onions with several layers of good skins can be dried at the upper range of the temperature drying scale but poorly skinned onions should be dried at the lower range.

To reduce the development of white rot in storage, make sure that the onions are very dry before they are stored. Heat curing may be the best approach. Growers should also make every effort to remove culls from their fields to reduce problems of onion maggot and diseases for next season.

Carrot rust fly numbers around the Holland Marsh are generally low and are not a concern especially if your carrots are 3 weeks or less from harvest.

Carrot leaf blights continue to develop around the Holland Marsh, however with cold night temperatures, disease progress will be very slow. Carrot disease control recommendations are listed on page 97 in publication 363 of the 2008-2009 edition. Growers should pay attention to the days to harvest for pesticides they use as harvesting time for carrots are getting closer.

Aster leafhopper are no longer a concern around the Holland Marsh.

HERBICIDE REGISTERED

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) recently announced the approval of a minor use label expansion for **POAST ULTRA herbicide** (sethoxydim) for control of labelled weeds on red (garden) beets in Canada. Poast Ultra herbicide was already labelled for use on a wide range of Canadian specialty and minor crops. The registration of Poast Ultra herbicide will provide red beet producers with an effective and useful weed management tool. Poast Ultra herbicide can be applied at a rate of 0.32 to 1.1 L product per ha in one or two post emergent applications in a water volume that ensures thorough coverage as per the current label directions. Do not exceed the maximum rate of 1.1 L per ha per season. Poast Ultra herbicide should be applied at the 1-6 leaf stage of annual grasses and the 1-4 leaf stage of wild oats and volunteer cereals. The pre-harvest interval for red beets is 49 days. Poast Ultra herbicide should be used in an integrated weed management program and in rotation with other management strategies. Follow all other precautions and directions for use on the Poast Ultra herbicide label