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## MUCK CROPS RESEARCH STATION IPM 2013

### This is the Muck Crops Research Station Report and IPM Information for October 08, 2013

High levels of sclerotinia rot have been found in some fields. Infection in the field starts at the base of the leaf stalk, causing the petiole to turn brown and die. Infection can also begin on the senesced leaves in the furrow and grows down the leaf and petiole. Foliar trimming of the carrot canopy can reduce sclerotinia rot. Allegro is registered for sclerotinia rot control, which should be applied preventatively or at the first sign of disease symptoms. Fungicides applied to control carrot leaf blights, such as Lance and Pristine, may also suppress sclerotinia rot. For post-harvest control of Sclerotinia, an emergency use registration for Scholar has been announced by PMRA. Scholar is only effective when applied to washed carrots. Scholar can be applied as a post-harvest dip or drench immediately before storage. Follow the labels carefully. Harvesting carrots when the ground is cool and cooling the carrots as quickly as possible also reduces white rot from developing in storage.

Carrot leaf blight has continued to develop around the Marsh. As canopies close, moisture and humidity levels increase, the risk of blight also increases. The spray threshold is 25% disease incidence (i.e. 25% of the plants surveyed show symptoms).

In carrots, there have been no carrot rust fly found on sticky traps at both of our research sites in the last 7 days. Remember there is no need to spray carrots for rust fly if they are 3 weeks or less from harvest.

Most onions in the Holland Marsh have been harvested. It is important that onions are dried, and then cooled properly for storage to reduce the risk of bacterial rots, white rot and botrytis neck rot and to maintain quality. Artificial heat curing would be recommended to reduce the development of storage-rot pathogens. The application of sclerotial germination stimulants such as garlic oil or diallyl disulfide (DADS) is also effective in reducing the incidence of white rot in onions.

Onions left in the field are the main sources of overwintering maggot and act as disease reservoirs. Thus, growers should make every effort to remove these culls to reduce problems for next season.

Celery growers should regularly check their fields for early and late blights. We observed early blight and late blight in celery around the Marsh. Both spores of early and late blight transfer from plant to plant either by splashing water or wind. Human activity also transfers the disease very easily especially when the plants are wet.

No aster leafhopper was found on sticky traps at our research station plots. Aster leafhoppers are no longer a concern for the rest of the season.

A total of 27.7 mm rain was accumulated between October 1 and October 7. The soil temperature at the Muck Crops Research Station at 10 and 20 cm depth is currently 15.8°C.

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



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