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MUCK CROPS RESEARCH STATION IPM 2013

This is the Muck Crops Research Station Report and IPM Information for September 04, 2013

The Muck Crops Research Station annual field day is Thursday, September 5, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Make plans to come and see our onion and carrot variety trials as well as various other research trials on station. The field day will also feature a tour to a phosphorus trial at our research site located at Jane street. A shuttle van will be available from our research station to Jane street research site. Lunch will be complements of John Verkaik from Solar Seed. Coffee and donuts will be provided by Jim Robinson from Stokes Seeds.

Maleic hydrazide (Royal MH 60) is applied to limit sprouting and extend the storage life of many onion cultivars. Onions should have more than 3 green leaves when MH 60 is applied. The optimum time for application is when at least 50 percent of the tops have fallen, but tops are still green. Best results are obtained when MH 60 is applied in the early morning or on a cloudy day, and 24 hours before or after rain.

The carrot rust fly activity has increased in most parts of the marsh. The carrot rust fly count at our at our research station was 0.04flies/trap/day. Insecticide spray thresholds are 0.1 flies/trap/day for fresh market and 0.2 for processing carrots.

Growers should periodically inspect their fields for onion white rot by checking any yellowing, stunted or wilting plants. Be sure to rouge out infected areas. 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.

The onion fly activity around the marsh is low. No insecticide spray is recommended at this time. Onions left in the field are the main sources of overwintering maggot and disease reservoirs. Thus, growers should make every effort to remove these culls to reduce problems for next season.

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 scouted show symptoms). Bravo, Echo, mancozeb (Dithane, Penncozeb and Manzate), Pristine, Cabrio, Lance, Cantus, Switch, Flint, Fontelis, Quadris Top and Allegro are registered fungicides.

Carrot fields should be monitored regularly for symptoms of Sclerotinia. Infection in the field starts at the base of the leaf stalk, causing the petiole to turn brown and die. Foliar trimming of the carrot canopy can reduce Sclerotinia. Fungicides applied to control carrot leaf blights, such as Lance and Pristine, **may** also suppress Sclerotinia on carrots.

Aster leafhoppers numbers are low in all parts of the Holland marsh to warrant insecticide spray.

Risk of downy mildew on lettuce is high. Downy mildew has been confirmed on lettuce in the Holland Marsh.

Seeding spring barley or oil seed radish as cover crop after celery, lettuce, early carrots and onions can help reduce erosion.

A total of 7.3 mm rain was accumulated between August 29 and September 3. The soil temperature at the Muck Crops Research Station at 10 and 20 cm depth is currently 18.5 and 19.2°C respectively.

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



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