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MUCK CROPS RESEARCH STATION IPM 2014

This is the Muck Crops Research Station Report and IPM Information for Tuesday August 26, 2014

Onion downy mildew is continuing to show up in fields throughout the Holland Marsh. DOWNCAST has predicted 4 sporulation infection periods in the past 5 days, meaning the risk of continual spread is high. Growers should monitor your fields regularly for downy mildew. Growers should spray for downy mildew control regularly if onions have not lodged or a Royal MH spray is still planned. Mancozeb (Dithane, Penncozeb and Manzate), Ridomil Gold, Pristine, Cabrio, Rovral, Aliette, Revus, Serenade Max, Quadris Top, Reason, Zampro and Acrobat are registered for onion downy mildew control. Rotate fungicides with different chemical groups.

Carrot leaf blight is still developing around the Marsh. The risk of leaf blight increases when the crop canopy closes in along with increased moisture and humidity. The spray threshold is 25% disease incidence. Bravo, Echo, mancozeb (Dithane, Pancozeb, and Manzate), Pristine, Cabrio, Lance, Cantus, Switch, and Allegro are registered for control of carrot leaf blight.

White mould caused by Sclerotinia has been seen in some carrot fields. A closed canopy, high humidity, and cooler temperatures like we've had recently create ideal conditions for Sclerotinia. Infection starts at the base of the leaf stalk, causing the petiole to brown and die. Significant losses can occur when infected carrots are stored. Trimming carrot leaves and opening up the canopy reduces disease incidence. There is a carrot trimmer for use by all growers available from the Holland Marsh Growers' Association. Only Allegro is registered for control of Sclerotinia on carrots. Carrot leaf blight fungicides such as Lance or Pristine may also help suppress the disease.

Periodically inspect your fields for onion white rot. Use extra caution in infected fields to prevent spread of the disease in the field or to another field.

We have seen a few more aster leafhoppers on our orange sticky traps. The counts are still relatively low and no sprays are recommended but it was the first time in a few weeks we have really seen the counts increase.

Rust fly activity has been low the past few days while onion maggot activity has been moderate.

BOTCAST: The cumulative disease severity index (CDSI) for botrytis leaf blight is now at 59. The risk of botrytis leaf blight at this time is high.

Early blight, Septoria late blight, and bacterial leaf spot have been confirmed in celery fields. Both diseases can be spread through wind and water so it is important to stay out of infected celery fields when foliage is wet.

Tarnished plant bugs counts and damage has been low.

BREMCAST: The lettuce downy mildew forecasting model predicted 4 sporulation infection period in the last 5 days. The risk of downy mildew on lettuce is high. Lettuce downy mildew has been confirmed in the Marsh.

A total of 3.4 mm of rain has been accumulated in the past 5 days. Soil temperatures at the Research Station as of August 14 at the 10 cm and 20 cm depths are 22.6, and 20.3°C respectively.

The Muck Crops Research Station Annual Field Day is on Thursday September 4, 2014 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. All growers are invited and encouraged to drop by. Lunch will be compliments of John Verkaik from Solar Seed. Coffee and donuts will be provided by Jim Robinson from Stokes Seeds.



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