



## MUCK CROPS RESEARCH STATION IPM 2011

### This is the Muck Crops Research Station Report and IPM Information for Tuesday Sept 20, 2011

Most onions around the marsh have been harvested. To reduce the development of white rot in storage, make sure that the onions are very dry before they are stored. Artificial heat curing may reduce the development of the disease.

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.

Onion fly activity has slowed down with the onset of cold weather.

Protect your muck soils from wind erosion and early spring runoff. Seeding spring barely or oilseed radish as cover crops can help reduce erosion

The carrot rust fly activity is low in most parts of the Holland Marsh. There is no need to spray carrots if they 3 weeks or less from harvest.

Carrot leaf blight has continued to develop. As canopies close, moisture and humidity levels increase, which increases the risk of leaf blight. Thus, a regular spray program is recommended at this time of the year.

We have been monitoring carrot plots at our station and fields around the Holland Marsh for the presence of Sclerotinia spores. At this stage Sclerotinia spores are released from the apothecia. Risk of Sclerotinia on carrot fields at this moment is moderate to high. Development of the disease in the field occurs under cool, wet conditions. Recent rain events will increase risk, and spores and white mycelium that cause the disease have been seen on the marsh. If you currently have low levels of disease it may spread quickly throughout your field. Maintaining a healthy crop has potential for reducing the severity of Sclerotinia. These include rotation with a non-susceptible crop, use wider row spacing to encourage good air movement and foliar trimming of the carrot canopy. Fungicides applied to control carrot leaf blights, such as Lance and Pristine, *may* also suppress Sclerotinia on carrots.

The Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) announced the approval of User Requested Minor Use Label Expansion (URMULE) registration for ALLEGRO 500F (fluazinam) fungicide for control of leaf blight and Sclerotinia rot (white mould) on carrots. Consult the label for specific disease timings and do not apply within 7 days of harvest for carrots.

Risk of downy mildew incidence on lettuce is currently high.

The soil temperature at the Muck Crops Research Station at 5 and 10 cm depth is currently 17.4 and 14.8°C respectively. A total of 12.7 mm rain accumulated at the station for the period of September 13 to September 19.

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

