



MUCK CROPS RESEARCH STATION IPM 2009

This is the Muck Crops Research Station report and IPM Information for Friday August 28, 2009

This morning we found new sporulating downy mildew hot spots on onions at our station. DOWNCAST, a downy mildew forecasting model, has predicted sporulation infection periods twice in the last 3 days. Risk of downy mildew development is high. Onion fields should continue to be sprayed as long as onions are standing.

Onion thrips count increased at our research station to 1.2 thrips per leaf and at our other research site at Jane street thrips count was 0.6 thrips per leaf. The threshold for pesticide application is 1 thrips per leaf.

Botrytis development has slowed down. Check your fields closely for purple blotch and bacterial infections.

Periodically inspect your fields for white rot. Be sure to rogue out infected area.

Bacterial diseases continue to be a problem in onions, celery and lettuce. Copper spray may reduce the spread of bacterial diseases, but copper cannot be used on every crop. Check the label first.

Onion fly activity around the Marsh is low. No insecticide spray is recommended at this time.

Application of Maleic hydrazide (Royal MH 60) stops the sprouting of onions in storage and extends 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.

Risk of Sclerotinia on carrot fields at this moment is low to moderate. However, risk will be higher in fields that had carrots last year or fields with a history of Sclerotinia problem. Growers should monitor your fields 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. For post harvest control of Sclerotinia, an emergency use registration for Scholar has just been announced by PMRA. Scholar is only effective when applied to washed carrots.

Carrot leaf blights continue to develop in most carrot fields. A fungicide should be applied as the carrot rows close over.

Aster leafhopper counts on station and fields around the Holland Marsh are currently low. Carefully check young plantings of celery and lettuce.

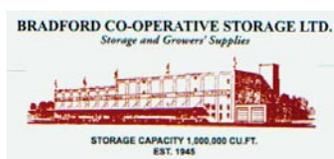
Carrot rust fly counts are generally low but may be in some sheltered areas. Pesticide spray is warranted when you have 0.1 flies/trap/day in fresh market carrots and 0.2 in processing carrots.

Tarnished plant bug counts and damage in celery at our research station are below threshold.

Continue a regular spray of micronutrients on celery. Celery growers should regularly check their fields for both early blight and late blight.

BREMCAST, a lettuce downy mildew forecasting model, has predicted couple of sporulation infection periods over the past 3 days. Risk of downy mildew on lettuce at this time is high. Growers should apply fungicide.





Due to growth stage of the crops our research station will be scouted once a week. As of next week this Agriphone (IPM information) will be updated once a week either Monday or Tuesday.

The Muck Crops Research Station annual field day is Thursday, September 3, 2009 from 8:30 am to 4 pm. All growers are invited and encouraged to drop by.

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

