



MUCK CROPS RESEARCH STATION IPM 2009

This is the Muck Crops Research Station report and IPM Information for Wednesday October 14, 2009

Almost all of the 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 and Botrytis neck rot and to maintain quality.

To reduce the development of white rot in storage, make sure that the onions are very dry before they are stored. Heat curing may be the best approach. Growers should also make every effort to remove culls from their fields to reduce problems of onion maggot and diseases for next season.

The current soil temperature at 5 cm depth is 9.8 °C. A total of 19.3 mm rain fell between October 6 and 12.

With cold night temperatures, carrot leaf blight progress will be very slow. Growers should pay attention to the days to harvest for pesticides they use as carrot harvesting time is getting closer.

Growers should monitor your fields regularly for symptoms of Sclerotinia in between the rows underneath the lodged leaves. Infection in the field starts at the base of the leaf stalk, causing the petiole to turn brown and die. We have seen infected carrots at our station. 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. Harvesting carrots when the ground is cool and cooling the carrots as quickly as possible also reduces white rot from developing in storage.

Carrot rust fly numbers around the Holland Marsh are generally low and are not a concern especially if your carrots are 3 weeks or less from harvest.

Aster leafhoppers are no longer a concern around the Holland Marsh.

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

