



VEGETABLE IPM MESSAGE

Vegetable Notes

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CROP CONDITIONS

Cooler temperatures have slowed the rate at which crops such as zucchini, summer squash, peppers and eggplants produce fruit. Despite the early August disease onslaught, many tomatoes are still producing well and the drier conditions of the past two weeks have kept vines at a relatively steady state, at least for growers using fungicides. Those who work with unsprayed tomato crops are seeing foliage go down earlier than usual, with an impact on the duration of harvest. Winter squash and pumpkin harvests are underway and the pumpkin market is strong. Farmstands and stores are looking for pumpkins for fall displays, which begin right after Labor Day. Smaller 10-15 lb pumpkins go first, along with sugar pumpkins. Vines are going down to powdery mildew but if fruit is well sized and maturing this can be tolerated. New outbreaks of phytophthora continue to be found and reported. Wherever possible, get fruit out of the field as soon as it is mature or nearly mature and put it into the environment needed for curing, then storing. (See last week's issue for more details.) Animals, disease, insects and cold temperatures will all contribute to fruit injury in the field, so bring the crop in as soon as possible.

Drier, cooler conditions have been associated with less disease and insect pressure overall. Caterpillars continue to be present in brassicas, but flea beetles are no longer feeding. Given cooler weather and less insect pressure, the quality of

brassica greens is steadily improving. However, fall brassica root crops (turnips, daikon) should be scouted for cabbage root maggot. Cercospora leaf spot, which affected lettuce crops as well as beets and chard during the muggy period in August, is no longer as much of a problem. Sweet corn harvest continues and for the most part quality is holding despite the intense earworm pressure of mid August. The corn picked last week and this week were subject to the worst pressure. Some growers are reporting 20 percent damage or more, but most corn on the market is in good shape.

--R Hazzard with contributions from R. Bonanno, J. Bagdon, W. Czajkowski, P. Westgate, C. Andersen

UPCOMING TWILIGHT MEETINGS

Randall's Farm

Wednesday, September 10, 2003 6:00-8:00pm

The flower, vegetable and ice cream stand is a new 10,000 square foot building open year-round. Karen Randall is on the Flower Growers' Board. Randall's farm is family owned with a diversified, friendly atmosphere with a knowledgeable staff selling locally grown, quality products. Tina Smith from the UMass Floriculture Team will be speaking about Pest Management in Retail Greenhouses for an hour including discussion. 1 contact hour has been requested for pesticide re-certification for private category 26.

Contact Tina Smith (413) 545-5306 or Karen Randall (413) 589-7071 if there are any questions.

Directions: Travel Route 90 (Mass. Pike) to Exit 7 (Ludlow Exit). Turn right off ramp onto Route 21 North. Travel approximately 2 miles, Randall's Farm and Garden Center are on the left.

Cider Hill Farm

Thursday, October 23, 2003 4:00pm

Glenn and Karen Cook are the owners of Cider Hill Farm. Their farm provides orchard tours, hayrides, cider pressing, animals and pick your own. There will be a talk on the variety of apples that are grown on the farm and about storage of pesticides. One pesticide credit will be given for attending the meeting. Jon Clements Umass Extension Tree Fruit Specialist will be on hand. For questions or more information call Jon Clements at (413) 323-4208 or email clements@umext.umass.edu

For directions visit www.ciderhill.com

FARM SAFETY FOR CHILDREN - PART II

Child Development Awareness for Farm Parents and Grandparents

Studies have shown that at least 300 children die each year because of injuries on the farm. An additional 23,500 children are injured on the farm each year. Many of these injuries are permanently disabling.

Research has shown that children of all ages are involved in farm accidents, but different age groups are more susceptible to specific hazards. As children grow and develop, both their play and work habits change. As a result, they are more prone to certain types of accidents.

Toddlers and Preschoolers (under age 5)

Injuries to toddlers and preschoolers tend to occur when playing on the farm or when riding on farm equipment.

Toddlers and preschoolers can climb, walk and run. This age

group has a very short memory and likes to test reality. They learn by trial and error. Preschoolers have a fascination with moving parts, for example PTO's, belts and moving corn in an auger.

Types of Injuries:

- falls from tractors.
- falls from heights, for example, silos, ladders and hay holes.
- kicked and stepped on by animals.
- ingestion of chemicals.

Prevention:

- Never have a child as an extra rider.
- Keep ladders out of reach.
- Keep chemicals in locked storage.
- Oversee the activity of preschoolers.
- Provide a fenced play area away from farming activities.

School Age Children (ages 6-11)

Injuries to school-age children occur at both work and play. This age group likes to explore and be creative. Parental attention and praise are very important. School-age children generally try to complete any assigned task to please their parents, even though the task may not be appropriate for them. They do not feel they can tell their parents "No," even if the children know the task is beyond their capability. This attitude results in many accidents. For example, a tired or weak child is more likely to become entangled in farm machinery.

Types of Injuries:

- falls from barns.
- auger amputations and entanglements.
- tractor roll-over.
- suffocation in grain.

Prevention:

- Restrict play areas.
- Evaluate child's physical and mental maturity for a given task.
- Have proper protective devices on equipment, such as ROPS and shields.
- Warning decals on hazardous equipment or locations.
- Set aside time to discuss farm dangers with children.

Adolescent (ages 12-16)

Most adolescents participate in farm labor. Therefore, their injuries are commonly work-related. This age group is greatly

influenced by peer pressure. Adolescents do not like to look like failures; they want to impress others and tend to believe they are immortal. Many risky behaviors, intended to impress, result in accidents.

Age should not be used as the sole measure of maturity. Some other variables that distinguish individual adolescents are judgment and body size. Experience and observation help to improve judgment. A parent who takes proper safety precautions is the best teacher. Children are likely to copy any behavior that parents practice (for example stepping over a moving PTO).

There is a tremendous difference in the size of adolescents. Growth occurs in spurts and varies between siblings. A task that was appropriate for one son or daughter at age 12 may not be appropriate for his/her brother or sister at the same age.

Types of Injuries:

- tractor roll-overs.
- amputations from PTO's.
- MVA (motor vehicle accidents) with farm equipment on roads.
- suffocation in grain bins.

Prevention:

- Evaluate the child's physical and mental maturity for a given task.
- Install the proper protective devices on equipment.
- Have children complete the necessary safety courses for operating farm machinery.
- Teach children to use personal protective equipment.
- Set aside time to discuss farm safety with children.
- Be a good role model.

Parents and grandparents should be sensitive to the development and needs of children. When assigning tasks to children, they need to consider a child's age, maturity level, attention span and physical size. If children are not physically ready for a task (for example, if they are too short), they should not be asked to perform the task. Do not alter machinery by using blocks on tractor brakes, for example.

Parents and grandparents also need to assess the level of alertness of children. If children have been in school all day,

they may be tired. Fatigue will increase the likelihood of an accident. A little time spent evaluating children before assigning tasks may end up saving their lives.

For more information see: http://ohioline.osu.edu/aex-fact/0991_1.html

*Adapted from Ohio State University Extension
Fact Sheet: AEX-991.1*

Month	Day	DSV/Day	Accumulated DSV	Avg. Wet Temp F	Wet hrs/day
August	21	3	128	73	13
	22	3	131	68	17
	23	0	131	51	11
	24	1	132	56	8
	25	2	134	64	14
	26	1	135	67	6
New Data Set					
August	27	1	136	59	8
	28	0	136	53	13
	29	2	138	72	10
	30	0	138	53	11
	31	1	139	55	15
September	1	2	141	60	18
	2	1	142	61	11

TOMCAST UPDATE

SWEET CORN & PEPPER

While **corn earworm** (CEW) and **European corn borer** (ECB) flights are decreasing, numbers in many locations still warrant control measures, though less intensive than in previous weeks. Increased **fall armyworm** (FAW) pressure may necessitate treating for this pest. CEW captures continue to decline in most portions of Massachusetts and southern Vermont. Given the progressively cooler nights and lower capture counts, spray schedules can relax to a 5-6 day schedule in most locations.

Town	Date	Iowa	NY	TOTAL ECB	CEW	FAW	% PT
		ECB Z1	ECB E2				
Brandon, VT	9/3/03				0		
Plainfield, NH	9/3/03	7	1	8	1	1	
Westminster, VT	9/3/03	7	25	32	0	5	
South Deerfield	9/4/03	6	13	19			
Sunderland	9/4/03	2	6	8		11	
Hatfield	9/3/03	64	3	67	2		
Hadley	9/1/03	31	73	104			
Feeding Hills	9/3/03	3	0	3	6	3	
Tyngsboro	9/3/03	12	4	16	2	1	
Sheffield, MA	9/3/03	***	7	>15***	1		
Lancaster	9/3/03	12	2	14	0	3	
Still River	9/4/03	3	2	5	25	12	
Concord	9/3/03	4	3	7	0	0	
Leicester/Spencer	9/3/03	2	1	3	0	2	
Northbridge	9/3/03	6	2	8	4	8	
Sharon	9/3/03	4	3	7	91		
Dighton	9/2/03	5	0	5	51	0	
Rehoboth	9/3/03	34	16	50	26	19	
*** Two week count, estimated							
Note: Counts in bold represent an average count from two traps.							

Where fewer than 2 moths per week are found, no further control measures are needed. ECB captures are also declining and remain below 20 in most locations, although some sites still have significant flights with captures of 50 to 100 moths per week. In these locations (remember that this is field-dependent data) new caterpillar hatch can be expected a while longer. The spray schedule for corn earworm should also control these ECB. Where CEW numbers are low, a weekly spray is adequate. Fall armyworm captures have increased in most areas. While FAW prefer whorl stage corn, they will move into older corn if that is all that is available. Sprays for Corn earworm and /or ECB should control the FAW, as well.

Peppers should be sprayed again this week in most areas as the ECB captures were still high last week and remain high in some areas this week.

--R Hazzard with contributions from A. Duphily, J. Golonka, J Mussoni, D. Riggs, R. Pestle, P. Westgate, and P. Willard

Vegetable Notes, Ruth Hazzard, Editor. Nicholas Connor, Assistant Editor. *Vegetable Notes* is published weekly from May to September and includes contributions from the UMass Extension Vegetable Program faculty and staff, growers, and private IPM consultants. Authors of articles are noted; author is R. Hazzard if none is cited.

Moths/Night	Moths/Week	Spray Interval
0 - 0.2	0 - 1.4	No spray
0.2 - 0.5	1.4 - 3.5	6 days
0.5 - 1	3.5 - 7	5 days
1.0 - 13.0	7 - 91	4 days
Over 13	Over 91	3 days

We would like to thank the following businesses for their sponsorship of *Vegetable Notes*:

- Crop Production Services**, 25 Elm St., South Deerfield, MA 01373. Phone 413-665-8775. Contact: Mike Barlow. "Profit from our experience."
- Empire Packaging Co.**, 311 North Plank Rd., Newburgh, NY 12550. Phone 800-562-5520. Contact: Dave Enos. "Retail & Wholesale Packaging for the Farm & Orchard."
- Family Farm Life and Casualty Insurance Co.**, 88C Main St., Northboro, MA 01532. Phone 508-393-9327. Contact: Dick Simonian. "Call for the agent nearest you."
- Harris Seeds**, 355 Paul Rd., P.O. Box 24966, Rochester, NY 14624-0966 Phone 585-295-3600. Contact: Karen McGuire. "A grower-friendly company."
- Superior Scale Company**, 154 Grove St., Chicopee, MA 01020. Phone 800-719-9040. Contact: Jerry Gamache. "The farmer's friend."