Vegetable Crop Update

A newsletter for commercial potato and vegetable growers prepared by the University of Wisconsin-Madison vegetable research and extension specialists

No. 28 – October 9, 2016

In This Issue

Calendar of Events

January 22-24, 2017 – WI Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Growers Conf. WI Dells
February 7-9, 2017 – UWEX/WPVGA Grower Ed. Conf., Stevens Point, WI
March 1, 2017 – UWEX Processing Vegetable Crops Meeting, Hancock, WI

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Veg Pathology Webpage: http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/wivegdis/.

Updates on chlorothalonil registrations for Wisconsin potatoes: The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has reviewed and approved the 24(c) applications for Echo 90 DF, Echo ZN, and Echo 720. The approved labels are available online at https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/SpecialUses.pdf

The Sipcam Agro chlorothalonil products (Echo) have this special registration for extended, long season use until 12/31/2020. The Syngenta chlorothalonil products (Bravo) have this special registration until 12/31/2017.

Late Blight Diagnostic Updates. WI: Over the past few weeks, we had some additional positive confirmations of late blight on tomato and potatoes within WI. So far, all of the tested samples were *Phytophthora infestans* of the US-23 genotype. Tomato late blight from Juneau County was confirmed on Sep 24, 2016; tomato and potato late blight from Crawford County was confirmed on Oct 3, 2016. Prior to these reports, we had just 3 farm confirmations from 2 counties: Polk (tomato and potato, US-23, 8/15 & 8/22) and Dane (tomato, 8/18).

Nationally: Late blight was not reported through the usablight.org extension website in this past week (www.usablight.org). Earlier season's reports have come from AR, MD, CA, CO, FL, MD, ME, MI, NC, NY, SC, VA, WA, and WI. Several regions of Canada have also confirmed potato late blight, including Western Manitoba, (north of ND), and the Pert-Andover area of New Brunswick (north of ME). US-23 has predominated cases of this disease in the US so far this year. West coast locations and CO has had US-8 and US-11, and NY has had US-24 as well. Disease has been confirmed on both potato and tomatoes. An earlier season US-23 isolate from MD was characterized with resistance to mefenoxam; this is not the response typically associated with this genotype – but indicates risk for pathogen evolution and need for continued testing.

If you are suspect late blight, please submit for free diagnostic testing through the UWEX Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic or through my laboratory directly. Dr. Brian Hudelson in the clinic offers rather quick late blight confirmations. My program can do this, similarly, for commercial producers and provide the pathogen genotype for best management strategies.

Wisconsin Fruit News

Supplemental Issue – Oct 7, 2016

In This Issue:

We have, for the first time in Wisconsin, caught brown marmorated stink bug in traps in agricultural crops (apple and pumpkin). If you are not already monitoring for BMSB on your orchard/farm, this would be a good time to begin inspecting for this pest.

Brown marmorated stink bug crop protection

First report of brown marmorated stink bug in agricultural crops in Wisconsin: BMSB found in apple orchards in Dane county

By: Christelle Guédot, UW-Madison

Brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) adults were found in our monitoring traps in apple orchards and in a pumpkin patch in Dane county, making this the first official report of BMSB in agricultural crops in Wisconsin. We caught up to 18 BMSB adults in a single trap in an apple orchard and a couple in the other apple and pumpkin traps on October 5th, 2016. The numbers in urban areas, especially on campus in Madison are rapidly increasing with dozens captured each day lately on the side of buildings.

As mentioned in the last article on BMSB in the WFN issue 13, BMSBs are actively moving around in search for food and overwintering sites at this time. Apple growers are strongly advised to scout and monitor for the presence of BMSB by visually inspecting fruit and neighboring vegetation around orchards for insects. You are also recommended to check fruit for signs of damage (Fig 1). Traps and lures are commercially available from Ag-Bio, Great Lakes IPM, and other companies and provide a great tool for monitoring for the presence and abundance of BMSB populations in your orchard. Traps will not attract insects from very long distances, and thus will not draw in stink bugs that would not have come to orchards in the first place. Traps have also not been reported to cause additional damage to fruit close to the trap from insects aggregating near the trap.

Fig 1. Apple fruit injured by BMSB feeding, before and after peeling. Photo by G. Krawczyk Pennsylvania State University.

Several insecticides have proven efficacious against BMSB. If you detect BMSB in your orchard, and numbers warrant the use of an insecticide, some options include pyrethroids (IRAC Group 3A) such as Bifenture (14d PHI), Brigade (14d PHI), Danitol (14d PHI), and Warrior (21d PHI); and neonicotinoids (IRAC Group 4A) such as Assail (7d PHI). Please check the label for specific information and pay special attention to pre-harvest intervals (PHIs).

Please, let us know if you suspect any BMSB in or around your orchard, as well as if you are having issues with stink bugs in general this season. You can email us with any questions or concerns at guedot@wisc.edu.

Happy harvest!

Fig 2. Brown marmorated stink bug nymph and adult. Photos by John Joutras.

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