



# Vegetable Crop Update

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

**No. 6 – May 23, 2014**

## In This Issue

Late blight reminders, updates, and a look at Blitecast  
Hop downy mildew detected in Portage and Dane Counties  
Cucurbit downy mildew – info resources  
Vegetable farm field day advertisement

## Calendar of Events

**June 19** – Organic & Sustainable Diversified Veg Farm Field Day, Sunbow Farm, Eau Claire, WI (UWEX St. Croix County)  
**July 18** – UW Potato Breeding Station Tour, Rhinelander Ag Research Station, Rhinelander, WI  
**July 22** – UW-Hancock Agricultural Research Station Field Day, Hancock, WI  
**August 12-14** – Farm Technology Days, Stevens Point, WI  
**August 21** – 1:00PM Antigo Field Day, Antigo, WI

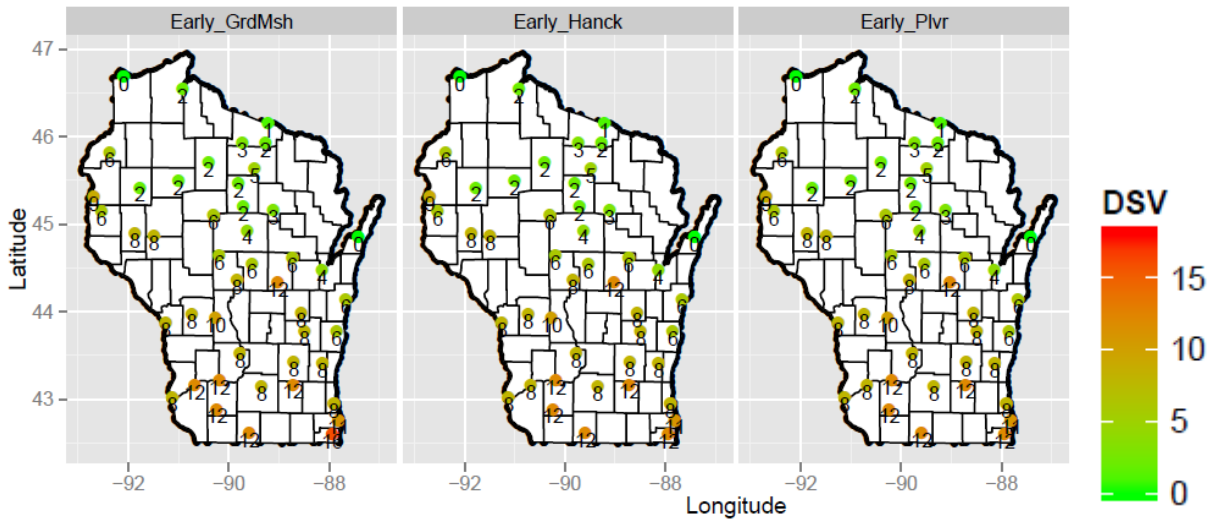
**Vegetable Disease Update – Amanda J. Gevens, Assistant Professor & Extension Vegetable Plant Pathologist, UW-Madison, Dept. of Plant Pathology, 608-890-3072 (office), Email: [gevens@wisc.edu](mailto:gevens@wisc.edu).**

**Vegetable Pathology Webpage: <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/wivegdis/>**

**Late blight reminders and updates:** Nationally, in the past week, there were no new late blight diagnoses reported at <http://www.usablight.org/>. So far in 2014, several FL counties have reported late blight caused by genotype US-23 in tomato and potato. The website provides location (by county) of positive reports of late blight in the U.S. and provides further information on disease characteristics and management.

All of our in-field weather stations are now functioning. Blitecast and P-Day values for actual potato field weather from Grand Marsh, Hancock, Plover, and Antigo are beginning to be posted to the UW Vegetable Pathology website [www.plantpath.wisc.edu/wivegdis/](http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/wivegdis/) at the tab “P-Days and Severity Values” and, starting next week, will be routinely posted in the weekly newsletter. We thank Dr. R. Vaughan James for his continued support in generating the disease forecasting values and for maintaining the Veg Pathology website.

Dr. Ken Frost, Research Associate in UW-Plant Pathology, generated DSV maps (below) depicting the accumulated DSVs from 50% emergence dates for early planted potato crops from NOAA weather data. Recall, we use a DSV accumulation of 18 (from time of 50% emergence) as the threshold for determining time for initial preventive fungicide application. Wisconsin’s southernmost counties are beginning to see DSV accumulations of 12 for potatoes with the emergence date of 19 or 20 May.



DSV accumulations for 4 WI locations based on general emergence dates of potato (50% emergence) for early planted crops. DSV accumulations depicted in maps are calculated from data generated from NOAA weather stations on **May 22, 2014**.

Location	Early Planting Date	Date of 50% Crop Emergence	DSV Accum on 22 May
Grand Marsh	4/20	5/19	9
Hancock	4/24	5/20	9
Plover	4/21	5/20	6
Antigo	5/20	TBD (not depicted above)	NA

**Hop downy mildew detections:** Graduate student Michelle Marks and I have positively confirmed the diagnosis of downy mildew on two hop shoot samples received from Dane and Portage Counties this morning. If you question suspicious plant growth and would like disease confirmation, please submit the sample to: Amanda Gevens, 1630 Linden Dr. Rm. 689, Plant Pathology Dept., Univ. of WI, Madison, WI 53706. It is helpful to wrap the plant tissue in newspaper prior to placing in shipping container or envelope.



Downy mildew in hop often first presents itself as yellow-green, chlorotic, and stunted curling/cupping leaves. Basal spikes are often pale in color and mis-shapen with elongated internodes. As the disease advances, plant tissues will start to appear brown and necrotic from the ground up. As the pathogen begins to 'fruit' or produce its spores for aerial spread, you can often see angular or straight-edged lesions on leaf surfaces with dirty-appearing, gray leaf undersides. The gray, fuzzy areas are locations of prolific spore production. Please see newsletter article from April 28 for further management information:

<http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/wivegdis/pdf/2014/April%2028%202014.pdf>

**Cucurbit downy mildew:** No cucurbit downy mildew detection in Wisconsin at this time (few cucurbit leaves out and available for disease at this time!). However, fields in the southeastern U.S. (FL and GA) have reported downy mildew. Information on detection and management can be found at: <http://cdm.ipmpipe.org/>. My graduate student and I just recently published an extension document on cucurbit downy mildew identification and management. The document can be accessed through the UWEX Learning Store at:

<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A3978.pdf>.

## Organic & Sustainable Diversified Vegetable Farm Field Day

Dr. Erin Silva, Dr. Russ Groves, and Dr. Amanda Gevens, Extension Specialists in Organic Production, Vegetable Entomology, and Vegetable Pathology will discuss organic and sustainable management considerations for insect, disease, and harvest management on diversified vegetable farms. They will update participants on the latest research on effective management strategies (both organic and conventional) for pest issues during the upcoming season, including late blight on tomatoes and potatoes.

### For more information contact:

**Heidi Doering**

St. Croix County Horticultural Agent  
heidi.doering@ces.uwex.edu  
715-531-1930

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Kristina Beuning has owned and operated Sunbow Farm as an organic fruit, vegetable and herb farm since 2003. Her passion for plants blossomed in graduate school where she obtained a M.S. in teaching biology and a Ph.D. in plant ecology. As an ecologist, Kristina strives to create an environment in which all organisms of the farm

ecosystem can thrive, from the tiniest, but vitally important, bacteria to the insects which pollinate the food crops, to the chickens and sheep, which through their manure recycle vital nutrients to begin the cycle again. As a farmer, her primary objective is to reconnect the people of her community with the land that provides them with this most basic of resources needed for human survival – food. Since its inception, Sunbow has operated as a CSA farm currently providing food to 70 families. In addition to fruits and vegetables, CSA members can also purchase eggs, chickens, lamb and honey from the farm. In 2011, Sunbow expanded its operation to include over 75 certified organic medicinal herbs that are used to produce a value-added product line available online and in stores throughout western Wisconsin.

### Directions to Sunbow Farm

- From I-94 take WI-37 Exit 65 south toward Mondovi/Durand
- Follow WI-37 for about 4.5 miles
- Turn west (right) onto Langdell Rd
- Go about 1 mile on Langdell and farm will be on the right. Colorful flag marks the driveway.



Sunbow Farm

## Organic & Sustainable Diversified Vegetable Farm Field Day

**Thursday, June 19, 2014**  
(12:30 pm Registration)  
**1 pm -- 5 pm (rain or shine)**

**Sunbow Farm**  
W4620 Langdell Rd.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Registration Fee: **\$10 Per Person**

Make checks payable to:  
**UW Extension**

Pre-Registration by  
**June 16, 2014 Recommended**



Dr. Russell Groves, Ph.D.  
Vegetable Extension  
Specialist & Associate



Dr. Amanda Gevens, Ph.D.  
Vegetable Extension  
Specialist & Associate

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Sunbow Farm W4620 Langdell Rd., Eau Claire, WI 54701

- 1:00-1:30 pm Introduction of UW-Extension Specialists and Kristina Beuning of Sunbow Farm
- 1:30-3:30pm Walk production fields and high tunnels with UW-Extension Specialists as they discuss present and anticipated concerns with vegetable crops. Better understand the complexities of high tunnel production used to complement field production systems for both vegetable and fruit crops. Dr Silva will share results of her 2013 organic weed control trials at UW-Madison West Madison trial site.
- 3:30pm-5pm Tour commercial kitchen and vegetable processing area. Kristina will discuss how her business has developed and diversified, her new product development process and how her frozen food processing will further diversify her income stream.
- 5:00 pm Adjourn



Dr. Erin Silva, Ph.D. accepted a faculty position in the UW-Madison Department of Plant Pathology on April 1, 2014 with a 75% Extension and 25% research appointment. Erin joined UW-Madison and UW-Extension in October 2013 as an associate scientist in the Department of Agronomy and an associate director with the Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems. In her new faculty role she will continue her work on Extension programming connected to organic production systems. She will also add new programming emphases on best management practices for harvest and postharvest handling on diversified vegetable farms.

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W4620 Langdell Rd.

Eau Claire, WI 54701

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State and Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

Registration fee is: \$10 Per Person

Pre-Registration by June 16, 2014 Recommended

Make checks payable to: UW-Extension

Please mail registration form and payment to:  
St. Croix County, UW Extension,  
1960 8th Ave., Ste 140, Baldwin, WI 54002

Questions: St. Croix County UW-Extension  
715-531-1930 or e-mail Heidi Doering at  
heidi.doering@ces.uwex.edu