Gas vs Cold Damage in High Tunnel Tomatoes

Judson Reid, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell Vegetable Program

We can’t help but notice the irony of a forecast high in the upper 80’s at the time of this writing, however damage inflicted on high tunnel tomatoes is a common problem right now. Over the previous two weeks prolonged cold, with nights in the upper 20’s and cloudy days struggling into the 40’s has created two problematic scenarios; cold damage and gas damage.

We’ll begin with cold, or specifically, frost damage. Unheated high tunnels are very poor insulators on clear, still nights. Daytime heat is lost rapidly as infra-red (IR) wave lengths escape through the polyethylene covering. These tunnels can have temperatures lower inside than out! Frost damage to high tunnel tomatoes is a burned, wilted appearance on the top of the plant. If the stalk is still alive often these plants can produce heavy yields, but unfortunately with smaller tomatoes, and much later in the season. IR trapping poly, and more effectively a double, inflated covering are options to prevent cold damage. Many farmers also use temporary solutions, such as propane heaters. Unfortunately, these bring the risk of gas poisoning.

Unvented, portable heaters can save a tomato crop when used occasionally, for example one or two cold nights. Often these cold nights are followed by clear, sunny days and the tunnels are vented when side curtains are raised. This vent-
About VegEdge

VegEdge newsletter is exclusively for enrollees in the Cornell Vegetable Program, a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and CCE Associations in 14 counties.

The newsletter is a service to our enrollees and is intended for educational purposes, strengthening the relationship between our enrollees, the Cornell Vegetable Program team, and Cornell University.

We’re interested in your comments. Contact us at: CCE Cornell Vegetable Program 480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424 Email: cce-cvp@cornell.edu Web address: cvp.cce.cornell.edu

Contributing Writers
Elizabeth Buck
Robert Hadad
Christy Hoepfing
Esther Kibbe, CCE Harvest NY
Margie Lund
Julie Kikkert
Judson Reid

Publishing Specialist/Distribution/Sponsors
Angela Ochterski

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Contents

Contact Us
Cornell Vegetable Program ...................................................................................... 12

Articles
Gas vs Cold Damage in High Tunnel Tomatoes ...................................................... 01
The Weed Race – Trial Notes from Spraying Small Onions .................................. 03
New USDA Coronavirus Food Assistance Program Accepting Applications .......... 04
All Farms Must Have a COVID-19 Safety Plan to do Business .............................. 05
NY Forward Safety Plan Template ................................................................. 06
Crop Insights: Observations from the Field and Recommendations .................. 08
Late May Berry Observations ........................................................................... 09
Processing Green Peas: Post-Emergence Weed Control with Herbicides .......... 10
Weather Charts.................................................................................. 11

Upcoming Events
Food Safety & Wash/Pack Facilities .................................................................... 02

This next issue of VegEdge newsletter will be produced on June 3, 2020.

Upcoming Events

View more events at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU

Food Safety & Wash/Pack Facilities

June 15, 2020 (Monday) | 6:15 pm - 9:15 pm via Zoom

This virtual training, presented by Robert Hadad and Caitlin Tucker from the CCE Cornell Vegetable Program, will help farmers and workers understand the concepts of food safety from harvest to packing. This training will also cover facility design, operation for washing produce and cleaning/sanitizing to minimize the risk of possible microbial contamination. Topics will include:

- The Basics: Understand what is contamination, why do we care, and
  where does it come from
- Identify sources and routes of contamination from field to Wash/Pack line – what to do about it
- Demonstrate the process of proper handwashing, and recognizing signs
  and symptoms of illness and injuries
- Understand the importance of prioritizing Wash/Pack design and function
- Review cleaning and sanitizing procedures for facilities and basic wash
  lines
- Review cleaning and sanitizing procedures for Wash/Pack equipment

This meeting is a FREE online webinar. For more information and registration, contact Robert Hadad at rgh26@cornell.edu or 585-739-4065.

This is material is based upon work supported by USDA/NIFA under Award Number 2018-70027-28588.
ing allows the combustion gases such as carbon monoxide and ethylene to escape. When cold nights are followed by cold, cloudy days repeatedly the tunnels are not vented and the plants are exposed to toxic levels of the combustion gases. Symptoms include twisting of foliage, off-colors such as purple, bronze and yellow as well as abnormal swelling and dropping of flowers. Severe damage can kill plants; however low levels of exposure often lead to only temporary symptoms.

The keys to using temporary propane heat in high tunnels is for emergency temperature drops only and to vent as soon as conditions allow in the morning. Long term upgrades such as inflated double-poly covering and permanent, vented heaters will prevent both the risks of frost and gas damage in a Spring such as 2020. If these aren’t within reach, a double layer of floating row cover, applied over top of the crop before sunset is another non-toxic option.

Unvented propane heaters are for emergency temperature drops only. Vent as soon as possible in the morning. 

The ovary of these flowers swells abnormally prior to flower opening when exposed to combustion gases such as carbon monoxide and ethylene. These flowers will drop. Photo by J. Reid, CCE CVP

The turning and twisting of leaves is common where combustion gases have reached toxic levels. Photo by Judson Reid, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

The Weed Race – Trial Notes from Spraying Small Onions

Christy Hoepting, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell Vegetable Program

When onions are in the flag-leaf stage with the first-leaf just starting to grow and there is a flush of weed seedlings coming, it is so tempting to want to go out and spray, because we all know how fast and furious those weeds can grow and how much easier it is to control them when they are small! I have not done much work recently on spraying post-emergent herbicides on flag-leaf onions, but below are some notes on my recent trials from 2018 and 2019 on spraying onions at 1-leaf stage. Specifically, the onions were at 1.25-leaf stage, which means that the second leaf was starting to come in and was about a quarter of the size of the first-leaf. I call this a “strong 1-leaf” stage. Also, important to note that spray conditions in 2018 trial were similar to current hot and dry conditions.

The following notes refer to single apps. Follow-up with a second application 7 days after the first generally results in much higher levels of weed mortality. The first app usually just burns them back. I have also demonstrated several times, especially with Goal 2XL that waiting until 2-leaf stage to apply 4 fl oz was as effective as applying 2 fl oz rate at 1-leaf stage. I’ve had similar results with Chateau, Goaltender and Buctril. Buctril 2EC 8 fl oz + Goal 2XL/tender at 2-leaf can be very effective.

| (1) Goaltender 1 fl oz = Goaltender 2 fl oz | (2) Chateau 2 oz | (3) Goal 2XL 2 fl oz | (4) Buctril 2E 8 fl oz | (5) Goal 2XL 4 fl oz = Buctril 2E 8 fl oz + Goaltender 2 fl oz = Chateau 2 oz + Goaltender 1 fl oz |

| CROP SAFETY ON 1-LEAF ONION (TECHNICALLY 1.25-LEAF = 2nd LEAF STARTING) in order from safest to onion to causing most injury to onion |
| Categories 1-3) less than 5% crop injury 7 days after treatment (DAT) | Categories 4) 5-10% crop injury 7 DAT | Category 5) 10% or more 7 DAT |

continued on page 4
NEW USDA CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Julie Kikkert, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program with info from the Cornell Small Farms Program and Farm Credit East

The USDA Farm Service Agency is accepting applications now through August 28, 2020 for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), which provides direct payments to offset impacts from the coronavirus pandemic. The application and a payment calculator are now available online, and USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) staff members are available via phone, fax and online tools to help producers complete applications. Producers can download the CFAP application and other eligibility forms from farmers.gov/cfap. Also, on that webpage, producers can find a payment calculator to help identify sales and inventory records needed to apply and calculate potential payments.

While you will need to read the eligibility information at the website carefully and work with your local Farm Service Agency, here are some brief eligibility requirements to help you get started.

### ABOUT THE CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(from [https://www.farmers.gov/cfap](https://www.farmers.gov/cfap))

The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, or CFAP, provides vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline or who had losses due to market supply chain disruptions due to COVID-19 and face additional significant market costs.

Eligible commodities include:

- Non-specialty Crops: malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, soybeans, sorghum, sunflowers, durum wheat, and hard red spring wheat
- Wool
- Livestock
- Dairy
- Specialty Crops: many fruits, vegetables, nuts, beans and mushrooms.

USDA has also issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) to solicit feedback on making additional crops available for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) if producers of those commodities believe they have faced a five percent or greater price decline between January and
April 2020 – this would include ornamental horticultural products.

SPECIALTY CROPS EXAMPLE:
Chris Laughton from Farm Credit East provided examples of how the CFAP might work in an article at https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Blog/todays-harvest/usda-new-direct-payments-program-for-farmers. Below is the section on specialty crops. See the full article for other commodities.

Because the growing season is just getting started, most Northeast producers will not have had eligible losses of specialty crops between January 1 and April 15, 2020. However, there may be some producers who had finished crops in storage who may have eligible losses.

Producers of specialty crops are eligible for CFAP payments in the following three categories:
1. Had crops that suffered a five percent-or-greater price decline between mid-January and mid-April as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
2. Had produce shipped but which subsequently spoiled due to loss of marketing channel, for which they did not receive payment
3. Had shipments harvested and packed that did not leave the farm or mature crops that remained unharvested (i.e. were plowed under), and that which have not been and will not be sold due to loss of market.

For example, producers of apples and potatoes are not eligible for category 1 losses but are eligible for categories 2 and 3.

Examples
- Apple grower had 10,000 pounds of apples shipped but not paid for: (10,000 x $0.21) = $2,100
- Potato grower had 100,000 pounds of potatoes packed for an order, which was canceled and which cannot be resold: (100,000 x $0.05) = $5,000

As with other USDA programs, the Farm Service Agency administers the program and determines the final dispensation of funds. The examples provided above are intended to be illustrative and are no way binding on USDA.

USDA will be providing a CFAP payment calculator with which producers and growers can estimate payments and pre-populate the application for payment—form AD-3314—once signup begins. Additional information, including a video preview of the payment calculator, is available at https://www.farmers.gov/cfap.

All Farms Must Have a COVID-19 Safety Plan to do Business During the Reopening from the Pandemic

Robert Hadad, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program; adapted from the Cornell Small Farms Program, 5/20/2020

Cornell Agricultural Workforce specialist Richard Stup prepared the following overview of how all NYS businesses need to have a written safety plan that details how they will prevent and manage COVID-19. This post appeared first in The Ag Workforce Journal.

New York State’s plan to begin re-opening will be in phases, as regions of the state achieve certain COVID-19 management metrics. An important part of this New York Forward plan is for all businesses to have a customized, written safety plan that details specifically how each business will prevent and manage COVID-19.

For more information, check out the NY Dept of Agriculture and Markets. https://agriculture.ny.gov/coronavirus
NY FORWARD SAFETY PLAN TEMPLATE

COVID-19 Reopening Safety Plan Template

Name of Business: ________________________________

Industry: ______________________________________

Address: ______________________________________

Contact Info: __________________________________

Owner: _________________________________________

Human Resources Representative and Contact Information, if applicable: ________________________________

I. PEOPLE

A. Physical Distancing. To ensure employees comply with physical distancing requirements you agree that you will do the following:

• Ensure 6 ft distance between personnel unless safety or core function of the work activity requires shorter distance. Any time personnel are less than 6 ft apart from one another, personnel must wear acceptable face coverings.

• Tightly confined spaces will be occupied by only individual at a time unless occupants are wearing face coverings. If occupied by more than one person, will keep occupancy under 50% of maximum capacity.

• Post social distancing markers using tape or signs that denote 6 ft. of spacing in commonly used and other applicable areas on the site (e.g. clock in/out stations, health screening stations).

• Limit in-person gatherings as much as possible and use tele- or video-conferencing whenever possible.

• Essential in-person gatherings (e.g. meetings) should be held in open, well-ventilated spaces with appropriate social distancing among participants.

• Establish designated areas for pick-ups and deliveries, limiting contact to the extent possible.

List common situations that may not allow for 6 ft. of distance between individuals. What measures will you implement to ensure the safety of your employees in such situations?

How you will manage engagement with customers and visitors on these requirements (as applicable)?

How you will manage industry-specific physical social distancing (e.g., shift changes, lunch breaks) (as applicable)?

II. PLACES

A. Protective Equipment. To ensure employees comply with protective equipment requirements, you agree that you will do the following:

• Employers must provide employees with an acceptable face covering at no-cost to the employee and have an adequate supply of coverings in case of replacement.

What quantity of face coverings – and any other PPE – will you need to procure to ensure that you always have a sufficient supply on hand for employees and visitors? How will you procure these supplies?

• Face coverings must be cleaned or replaced after use or when damaged or soiled, may not be shared, and should be properly stored or discarded.

What policy will you implement to ensure that PPE is appropriately cleaned, stored, and/or discarded?

• Limit the sharing of objects and discourage touching of shared surfaces; or, when in contact with shared objects or frequently touched areas, wear gloves (trade-appropriate or medical); or, sanitize or wash hands before and after contact.

List common objects that are likely to be shared between employees. What measures will you implement to ensure the safety of your employees when using these objects?

continued on next page
B. Hygiene and Cleaning. To ensure employees comply with hygiene and cleaning requirements, you agree that you will do the following:

- Adhere to hygiene and sanitation requirements from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Department of Health (DOH) and maintain cleaning logs on site that document date, time, and scope of cleaning.
  
  *Who will be responsible for maintaining a cleaning log? Where will the log be kept?*

- Provide and maintain hand hygiene stations for personnel, including handwashing with soap, water, and paper towels, or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer containing 60% or more alcohol for areas where handwashing is not feasible.
  
  *Where on the work location will you provide employees with access to the appropriate hand hygiene and/or sanitizing products and how will you promote good hand hygiene?*

- Conduct regular cleaning and disinfection at least after every shift, daily, or more frequently as needed, and frequent cleaning and disinfection of shared objects (e.g. tools, machinery) and surfaces, as well as high transit areas, such as restrooms and common areas, must be completed.
  
  *What policies will you implement to ensure regular cleaning and disinfection of your worksite and any shared objects or materials, using products identified as effective against COVID-19?*

C. Communication. To ensure the business and its employees comply with communication requirements, you agree that you will:

- Post signage throughout the site to remind personnel to adhere to proper hygiene, social distancing rules, appropriate use of PPE, and cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

- Establish a communication plan for employees, visitors, and customers with a consistent means to provide updated information.

- Maintain a continuous log of every person, including workers and visitors, who may have close contact with other individuals at the work site or area; excluding deliveries that are performed with appropriate PPE or through contactless means; excluding customers, who may be encouraged to provide contact information to be logged but are not mandated to do so.
  
  *Which employee(s) will be in charge of maintaining a log of each person that enters the site (excluding customers and deliveries that are performed with appropriate PPE or through contactless means), and where will the log be kept?*

- If a worker tests positive for COVID-19, employer must immediately notify state and local health departments and cooperate with contact tracing efforts, including notification of potential contacts, such as workers or visitors who had close contact with the individual, while maintaining confidentiality required by state and federal law and regulations.
  
  *If a worker tests positive for COVID-19, which employee(s) will be responsible for notifying state and local health departments?*

III. PROCESS

A. Screening. To ensure the business and its employees comply with protective equipment requirements, you agree that you will:

- Implement mandatory health screening assessment (e.g. questionnaire, temperature check) before employees begin work each day and for essential visitors, asking about (1) COVID-19 symptoms in past 14 days, (2) positive COVID-19 test in past 14 days, and/or (3) close contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case in past 14 days. Assessment responses must be reviewed every day and such review must be documented.

  *What type(s) of daily health and screening practices will you implement? Will the screening be done before employee gets to work or on site? Who will be responsible for performing them, and how will those individuals be trained?*

  *If screening onsite, how much PPE will be required for the responsible parties carrying out the screening practices? How will you supply this PPE?*

B. Contact tracing and disinfection of contaminated areas. To ensure the business and its employees comply with contact tracing and disinfection requirements, you agree that you will do the following:

- Have a plan for cleaning, disinfection, and contact tracing in the event of a positive case.

  *In the case of an employee testing positive for COVID-19, how will you clean the applicable contaminated areas? What products identified as effective against COVID-19 will you need and how will you acquire them?*

  *In the case of an employee testing positive for COVID-19, how will you trace close contacts in the workplace? How will you inform close contacts that they may have been exposed to COVID-19?*

IV. OTHER

Please use additional paper to provide additional details about your business’s Safety Plan, including anything to address specific industry guidance.
GENERAL
The weather continues to be challenging. Some early planted crops show frost or chilling injury, while other plantings are suffering from a lack of timely rainfall in this unseasonable heat. A line of violent storms swept through the southern Finger Lakes Monday, which may have caused some damage to young plantings. On the whole though, planting is progressing well and crops will benefit from the large number of degree days if given adequate moisture. Keep an eye on low temperatures headed into next week and be ready to protect tender crops with row cover, since they will not be hardened off for a sudden return to the low 40s.

BEETS
Leaf spots in field-grown beets at this time are likely caused by Bacterial Leaf Spot as this disease is favored by cool, rainy weather. Lesions are irregular shaped and have black borders. Leaves become twisted and puckered. Beets grown in greenhouses or tunnels could have Bacterial Leaf Spot or Cercospora leaf spot which is typically a mid to late season disease in field grown beets and chard. Cercospora is favored by warm weather and long periods of humidity or rain. Lesions of Cercospora have characteristic black dots in the center (pseudostromata) as seen with a hand-lens and a purple border. For more information and photos, see the June 12, 2019 issue of VegEdge. If you are growing beets conventionally, I reviewed herbicide options in the February 3, 2020 issue of VegEdge. Post-emergence herbicides are selected based on the weed species that have emerged. Micro-rates of a combination of some or all of the following herbicides can be used: UpBeet, Nortron, Spin-Aid, and Stinger. Alone, each of these herbicides has limited effectiveness, but together can improve the spectrum and efficacy of weeds controlled. Spin-Aid can burn young beets, so be very careful with the rates. We typically use 0.5 pt/acre Spin-Aid when beets are very young (2 to 4 leaf stage), and increase rates with larger beets. Stinger has a long crop rotation interval for some crops and should be used with that in mind. - JK

COLE CROPS
Flea beetle activity is picking up. Scout for flea beetles during the middle part of the day and have a plan in place for protecting young transplants from heavy feeding.

CUCURBITS
Cucumber beetles are here and hungry! Scout your cucurbit crops now, be sure to check under leaves and at the base of stems to make an early detection.

GARLIC
It may be a little late for adding N to garlic at this point. However, with the dry weather, it wouldn’t hurt to give the plants some irrigation. Garlic doesn’t have a big root system and it isn’t very deep. If your soil is well drained or it just hasn’t rained much in the last couple of weeks, providing some water every two to three days while the dry conditions last will ease the stress on them. - RH

LETTUCE AND GREENS
Irrigation is needed to help keep these crops from becoming stressed enough to bolt. Bottom water rather than overhead, especially for lettuce to avoid rot. Short but frequent waterings are better than infrequent heavy watering. Bottom rot/wirestem (Rhizoctonia), and drop (sclerotinia) are several of the common diseases of lettuce during hot damp weather. Endura 70 WDG and Luna Sensation are two of the products that can be used on both bottom rot/wirestem and drop. As always, read the labels and the NY label recommendation is the law. - RH

ONIONS
Here come the weeds! As the weather has changed from winter to summer in a week, its grow time! For both onions and unfortunately the weeds and barley. Earliest direct seeded onions are at 1-2 leaf and transplants are at 5-6 leaf. Most of the direct seeded crop is at flag to 1-leaf stage. Barley-kill is well underway. Hopefully, this heat will not result in seedling burn-off. See article on the Weed Race – Trial Notes from Spraying Small Onions (page 3), which outlines some key differences between Chateau and Goal 2XL/
tender. In general, Goaltender is the safest with most broad-spectrum weed control, while Chateau is more selective, but is really effective on the weeds that it is good at (Fig. 1). Onions struggling with pre-emergent injury such as improper unfurling of the leaves (= looping injury) and thickened, brittle stems from Outlook and Prowl are less equipped than healthy onions to tolerate post-emergent herbicides.

PEPPERS
Many peppers and tomatoes have been set out in the field in the past week. Best practice is to examine both crops for any sign of bacterial disease on the foliage prior to transplanting out into the field. Bacterial diseases can spread easily in the greenhouse. Follow that up by using fresh stakes to avoid carrying over bacterial (and other tomato) diseases from year to year.

PROCESSING VEGETABLES
Will be covered under individual crop headers this year. - JK

SWEET CORN
Early sweet corn has been cut out of its plastic tents. Crop still under plastic cover should be cut out now or closely monitored to ensure the crop doesn’t suffer from excessive heat. Crop stages vary, but most of the fields examined were 4-5 leaf and about 6-8” tall. Some plantings showed injury from the recent cold. Young corn will outgrow that damage and should yield properly. Corn traps were set up in the last few days across several Western NY sites. Expect to see catch counts starting next week.

Late May Berry Observations
Esther Kibbe, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Harvest NY

After weeks of cold slowing plant development, hot weather is now accelerating it. Strawberries and blueberries are in full bloom across WNY. Early strawberry flowers showed quite a lot of black centers, but secondary flowers have been pushing through with this heat and it looks like most fields will still have a reasonable crop. Bear in mind that with the early bloom delayed, and the later flowers now advancing rapidly in the heat, there may be little difference between early and late varieties, making for a very condensed harvest season. If we get some cooler weather, that may spread things out again, but it will be interesting to manage.

Buds are swelling fast on the Rubus (brambles) and Ribes (currants & gooseberries). Expect bloom in the next week or so. There are some laterals that appear to have been damaged by the cold, and are not elongating. In some cases, secondary buds are pushing to replace these. It isn’t clear how this might affect the crop. Some growers are putting out feeders to attract hummingbirds, which eat thousands of insects every day. This approach may help reduce pressure from SWD.

Fields I have visited have been very clean, but from across the Northeast there are reports of tarnished plant bugs, spider mites and strawberry clipper damage. Insecticides should be avoided now that we are in bloom, but keep looking for issues so that you are ready at petal fall. Some growers are seeing young gypsy moth caterpillars, which have blown out of the trees. They aren’t particularly interested in strawberries, but will eat them if they are in the neighborhood. Gypsy moth caterpillars can be a bigger problem in blueberries, defoliating entire plants. Dipel can be used to control these if they get bad.

As mentioned last week, some fields are seeing more angular leaf spot due to sprinkling for frost protection. Copper products are not recommended now that we are in bloom. Oxidate/Rendition is the safest option for now.

Many areas across the northeast are experiencing drought conditions. We have been lucky in WNY to get some timely rains, but be sure to get irrigation equipment into the field if it isn’t set up already. Adequate moisture is key for fruit size, yield and overall plant health.

Cold damaged blossoms have a black center, while yellow centers show that a berry will develop.

Hummingbird feeders can attract birds to eat insect pests like SWD.

Strawberry plants under heat and drought stress will curl and wilt.

Photos by Esther Kibbe, CCE Harvest NY
Processing Green Peas: Post-Emergence Weed Control with Herbicides

Julie Kikkert, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell Vegetable Program

The earliest planted peas already have several nodes of growth while others have recently been planted. Scouting and managing weeds in all pea fields is critical until the crop begins flowering. The best chance for control is when the weeds are young. Growers of conventional processing peas rely largely on herbicide use for weed management. The application of post-emergence herbicides should be based on the dominant weed species present and the growth stage of the peas. A copy of the chart on relative effectiveness of herbicides available for peas in NY is available on the Cornell Vegetable Program website in the pea crop section. There are no changes in products for 2020. Note that this chart is only for succulent green (English) peas. If you are growing edible pod or other types of peas, please make sure to look at the product labels carefully.

The application of post-emergence herbicides to succulent peas must be made at certain growth stages. Herbicide labels often refer to peas at a certain number of nodes (point where a leaf meets the stem). In peas, the first two nodes have only scale leaves and are often below the ground (Fig. 1). These should be counted in green peas. (Note this is different for dry field peas.) Furthermore, afila (leafless) peas do not have true leaves, rather they have stipules and tendrils.

Basagran and Thistrol don’t have any soil residual, so the best time to spray is when the majority of weeds have emerged. Ideally, the first flush of weeds would have one or two leaves and the next flush would be in the cotyledon stage. Keep in mind that rain will stimulate new flushes of weeds. If you have nightshades, pigweed or mustard in your field, a better choice may be Raptor or Pursuit. Basagran will only control hairy nightshade, whereas Raptor and Pursuit will control both hairy and eastern black nightshade. Poast, Assure II/Targa and Select Max all provide good to excellent control of the most prevalent annual grasses in NY.

Although Basagran is labeled for yellow nutsedge, the rate we use in peas (1.0 – 2.0 pt/A) is too low to kill nutsedge, however, you may see suppression of weed growth. That is why on the pea herbicide chart Basagran is given a “poor” rating on yellow nutsedge. In the future, make note that Dual Magnum applied pre-emergence is very effective against nutsedge. Better yet, control nutsedge in fallow fields or rotational crops as a long-range plan for a particular field.

If you have Canada thistle in your fields, you may either hand-pull if there are small patches or apply a spray of Thistrol when the thistle is 4 to 10 inches tall. Use a rate of 3 to 4 pints/acre. This will prevent the thistle from forming flower buds that can contaminate the pea product, but will not kill the thistle. Remember that Thistrol cannot be applied to peas that are later than 3 nodes before flowering. In early peas, those at nodes 9 to 11, the timing of this postemergence application is critical. Late applications in early peas cause non-uniform flowering, resulting in uneven maturity. Canada thistle management is best done in rotational crops or in the fall. Stinger is the most effective herbicide, because it moves to the roots. Note that there is an 18 month restriction before you can plant peas in a field where Stinger has been applied. Stinger is labeled for field corn, sweet corn, cabbage, beets and spinach, and pasture/forage crops. The optimal time for application is in April and May before the thistle buds open. Later in the season, you can use 2,4-D in labeled crops (not peas). In the fall, Roundup + Banvel can be used.

Table 1. The average node to first flower for commonly grown processing pea varieties.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Vine Type</th>
<th>1st Node to Flower</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Early Season</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FP 2269 Afila</td>
<td>9 to 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Normal</td>
<td>9 to 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLS M-14 Normal</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mid-Season</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC5051 Normal</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DA1470 Determinant Afila</td>
<td>12 to 13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portage Afila</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SV7401QH Normal</td>
<td>13 to 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>SV 8112QH Determinant Afila</td>
<td>10 to 13</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Late-Season</strong></td>
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<td>Bolero Normal</td>
<td>14 to 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concept Afila</td>
<td>16 to 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>GV513 Normal</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLS196 Afila</td>
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<td>Ricco Afila</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spartan Afila</td>
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<tr>
<td>SV6844 Afila</td>
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<tr>
<td>SV7688QF Determinant Afila</td>
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Figure 1. Node Count in Succulent Green Peas

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<th>Standard Type</th>
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<td>Node 2</td>
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<td>Node 4</td>
<td>Node 5</td>
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</table>

Image by Julie Kikkert, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program
### Weather Charts

**John Gibbons, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program**

#### WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY: 5/19/2020 - 5/25/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location**</th>
<th>Rainfall (inch)</th>
<th>Temperature (°F)</th>
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<td>Week</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Burt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ceres</td>
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<td>1.87</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elba</td>
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<td>Fairville</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Geneva</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Penn Yan*</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>1.34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rochester*</td>
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<td>1.06</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.37</td>
<td>1.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Bristol</td>
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<td>1.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varick</td>
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<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Versailles</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamson</td>
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### ACCUMULATED GROWING DEGREE DAYS (AGDD)

**BASE 50°F: APRIL 1 — MAY 25, 2020**

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<th>2020</th>
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<th>2018</th>
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<td>140</td>
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<td>186</td>
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<td>211</td>
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<td>Buffalo*</td>
<td>192</td>
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<tr>
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<td>164</td>
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<td>162</td>
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<td>220</td>
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<tr>
<td>Williamson</td>
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*Airport stations
** For other locations: [http://newa.cornell.edu](http://newa.cornell.edu)
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VegEdge is the highly regarded newsletter produced by the Cornell Vegetable Program. It provides readers with information on upcoming meetings, pesticide updates, pest management strategies, cultural practices, marketing ideas and research results from Cornell University and Cornell Cooperative Extension. VegEdge is produced every few weeks, with frequency increasing leading up to and during the growing season.

VEGETABLE SPECIALISTS

Elizabeth Buck  |  585-406-3419 cell  |  emb273@cornell.edu  
fresh market vegetables, weed management, soil health

Robert Hadad  |  585-739-4065 cell  |  rgh26@cornell.edu  
farm food safety, organic, business & marketing, fresh market vegetables

Christy Hoepting  |  585-721-6953 cell  |  cah59@cornell.edu  
onions, cabbage, broccoli, garlic, pesticide management

Julie Kikkert, Team Leader  |  585-313-8160 cell  |  jrk2@cornell.edu  
processing crops (table beets, carrots, peas, snap beans, sweet corn)

Margie Lund  |  607-377-9109 cell  |  mel296@cornell.edu  
potatoes, dry beans, and post-harvest handling and storage

Judson Reid  |  585-313-8912 cell  |  jer11@cornell.edu  
greenhouses/high tunnels, small farming operations, fresh market veggies

PROGRAM ASSISTANTS

John Gibbons  |  jpg10@cornell.edu

Angela Ochterski  |  585-394-3977 x426

Caitlin Tucker  |  cv275@cornell.edu

Sarah Vande Brake  |  sv483@cornell.edu

Emma van der Heide  |  ev247@cornell.edu

ADMINISTRATION

Peter Landre  |  ptl2@cornell.edu

Steve Reiners  |  sr43@cornell.edu

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