Cornell Cooperative Extension | Cornell Vegetable Program

VEGEdge

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE

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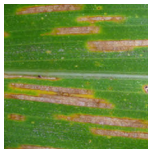

Be on the Watch for Leaf Diseases in Sweet Corn

Julie Kikkert, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell Vegetable Program

August is the time that leaf diseases in corn may arise. The wet/rainy and humid weather can get diseases going quickly. There are at least 13 diseases that can infect sweet corn in New York http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/NewsArticles/Corn-Diseases_News.htm (Contact our office if you can't access the article online.)

The presence and severity of disease in a sweet corn field depends on the following:

- Disease resistance genes in a given sweet corn variety
- The presence of disease causing pathogens
- Weather conditions

Below is a description of three of the fungal diseases that are most likely to be found in WNY.

Resistant varieties are available for most of the commonly seen diseases, and should be planted if a particular disease is severe in your area. Contact your seed supplier for disease resistance information for their varieties. A list of the relative tolerance to common rust and northern corn leaf blight (as well as Stewart's wilt and common smut) can be found in the sweet corn section of the Cornell Vegetable Crops Guidelines.

Common corn rust. *Photo by H. Dillard, previously of Cornell*

COMMON CORN RUST *(PUCCINIA SORGHI)*

Appear as oval to elongate cinnamon brown (rusty) pustules scattered over the upper and lower surfaces of the leaves. Dusty red spores are spread by the wind and can infect nearby leaves. Partial resistance is expressed as chlorotic or necrotic hypersen-

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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:
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Help us serve you better by telling us what you think. Email us at *cce-cvp@cornell.edu* or write to us at Cornell Vegetable Program, 480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424.

Contents

The next issue of VegEdge newsletter will be produced on August 11, 2021.

Accumulated Growing Degree Days, 8/2/21

Julie Kikkert and Emma van der Heide, CCE Cornell Vegetable Program

Accumulated Growing Degree Days (AGDD)
Base 50°F: April 1 - August 2, 2021

Location**	2021	2020	2019
Albion	1705	1670	1471
Arkport	offline	offline	offline
Bergen	1547	1630	1422
Brocton	1579	1604	1449
Buffalo*	1680	1706	1471
Burt	1460	1574	1327
Ceres	1387	1393	1411
Elba	1465	1567	1367
Fairville	1473	1588	1356
Farmington	1523	1608	1383
Fulton*	1486	1631	1347
Geneva	1572	1656	1462
Hammondsport	1481	1593	1394
Hanover	1560	1598	1434
Lodi	1290	1683	1496
Niagara Falls*	1629	1637	1418
Penn Yan*	1654	1714	1530
Rochester*	1591	1670	1569
Sodus	1602	1582	1328
South Bristol	1491	1582	1380
Varick	1656	1738	1541
Versailles	1499	1558	1419
Williamson	1459	1557	1314

* Airport stations
** For other locations: http://newa.cornell.edu

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sitive flecks with little or no sporulation. Favored by heavy dew, moderate temperatures, and high nitrogen; this disease spreads to the Northeast yearly from spores blowing in from Southern regions. Some sweet corn varieties are more tolerant than others, and should be planted if possible. Staggered plantings should be separated if feasible so that fungal spores from earlier plantings are less likely to infect later plantings.

Early infections (whorl up to tassel stage) can weaken plants and result in smaller ears with dehydrated kernels. Later infections typically do not affect yield, but the brown pustules on the husks render ears unsalable for fresh market.

NORTHERN CORN LEAF BLIGHT *(SETOSPHAERIA TURCICA)*

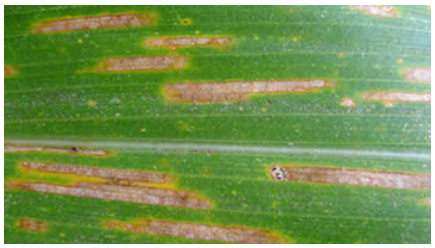
Produces long, elliptical lesions that are typically cigar-shaped. Generally starts on lower leaves and moves up the plant. Favored by moderate temperatures, high humidity and heavy dews. Infection during early growth may cause heavy loss in ear fill. When severe, plants are killed prematurely. Overwinters in corn debris, so use good crop sanitation and rotation.

Northern corn leaf blight. *Photo from Iowa State University*

GRAY LEAF SPOT *(CERCOSPORA ZEAE-MAYDIS)*

Rectangular lesions that start on the bottom leaves of the plant. The sharp parallel edges and opacity of mature lesions are diagnostic. Can severely impact yield. Susceptibility varies among hybrids. Infection is favored by prolonged periods of dew, fog and cloudy weather. Overwinters on crop debris.

For additional management information see the 2021 Cornell Vegetable Guidelines.



Gray leaf spot of sweet corn. *Photo from Iowa State University*

Market Opportunity for Surplus Product: Nourish New York

New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

Nourish New York is an initiative prompted by COVID-19 that provided money from the state to emergency food providers to buy surplus products from New York farmers and deliver the products to families in need.

If at point in the season **you have a surplus of product and need an outlet to sell it**, you can contact Jessica Brooks, Program Manager, NYS Grown & Certified, Department of Agriculture & Markets, at (518) 402-7398, cell (518) 424-1336, or email Jessica at Jessica.Brooks@agriculture.ny.gov – Jessica maintains a running list of available products that food banks can purchase.

For more information about the initiative, visit https://agriculture.ny.gov/NourishNY

NY Sweet Corn Trap Network Report, 8/3/2021

Marion Zuefle, NYS IPM Program; from http://sweetcorn.nysipm.cornell.edu

Statewide, 31 sites reported this week. European corn borer (ECB)- E was caught at 5 sites and ECB-Z was caught at 1 site. The hybrid ECB was caught at four of the five sites trapping for it: Geneva (2), Hurley (18), Penn Yan (1) and Seneca Castle (2). Corn earworm was caught at 12 sites with 7 sites high enough to be on a 5 or 6 day spray schedule (see previous issue of VegEdge for spray interval table). Fall armyworm (FAW) was caught at 16 sites this week but the average catch dropped from last week.

Western bean cutworm (WBC) numbers continued to increase this week with 29 sites reporting trap catches. Based on degree day accumulation, we are at about 75% flight completion at most sites for WBC using the NEWA WBC Flight Emergence Lookup Table. Peak flight probably occurred over the last week.

WNY Pheromone Trap Catches: August 3, 2021

Location	ECB-E	ECB-Z	ECB Hybrid	CEW	FAW	WBC	DD to Date
Batavia (Genesee)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2981
Bellona (Yates)	0	0	0	0	2	33	2963
Brockport (Monroe)	3	1	NA	1	1	8	3040
Collins (Erie)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2864
Eden (Erie)	0	0	NA	2	0	2	2977
Geneva (Ontario)	0	0	2	0	14	29	2951
Hamlin (Monroe)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2950
Leroy (Genesee)	0	0	NA	1	0	4	2940
Lyndonville (Orleans)	0	0	NA	0	0	39	2891
Oswego (Oswego)	0	0	NA	0	0	48	2683
Panama (Chautauqua)	0	0	NA	0	0	44	2673
Penn Yan (Yates)	0	0	1	0	5	20	2872
Portville (Cattaraugus)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2619
Ransomville (Niagara)	0	0	NA	0	0	89	2988
Seneca Castle (Ontario)	1	0	2	0	0	8	2901
Williamson (Wayne)	0	0	NA	0	3	79	2749

ECB: European Corn Borer; CEW: Corn Earworm; FAW: Fall Armyworm; WBC: Western Bean Cutworm; NA: not available; DD: Degree Day based on accumulation starting March 1 (base 38) for WBC emergence

CROP Insights

Observations from the Field and Research-Based Recommendations

BEETS

Some beet fields suffered from the previous heavy rains and may have run out of nutrients including nitrogen and potassium. Cultivation and side dressing may help get the crop growing. Cercospora leaf spot (CLS) is becoming more common, especially in unsprayed fields. We have gone from very wet to dry fields again. Phoma and bacterial leaf spot are still present but have slowed down over the past week in the fields we scouted Tuesday. We expect the CLS forecast to be in the moderate to high range as temperatures soar later this week and early next week. Unprotected fields may need a fungicide treatment if the crop has a long way to go until harvest. - JK

CUCUMBERS

Bacterial wilt has been showing up in some plantings. As usual, striped cucumber beetles are to blame. Feeding earlier in the season by these pests sometimes pass bacteria into the plants. After weeks of growth, the bacteria multiply enough to block the vascular system of the vines. Management goes back to controlling beetles early on. - RH

DRY BEANS

Mexican bean beetle larvae are present in dry beans. A pesticide application is recommended when 1-1.5 larvae are found per plant, or 30% defoliation during bloom and 15% defoliation during pod-set and podfill is observed. White mold has developed in earlier planted fields where canopies are dense. If your beans were planted later and are still at flower or pre-flower, make sure you have a fungicide plan in place. An initial application of Omega 500F is recommended followed by a second application of Endura 70 WDG. The first application should be made at the early bloom stage. - ML

LETTUCE AND GREENS

Tarnished plant bugs (Lygus bugs) are proliferating in lettuce. Get on top of management before harvest time. Refer to the July 14 issue of VegEdge, page 3, for information. - RH

ONIONS

Many fields are lodging to some degree this week with foliar health, leaf diseases and onion thrips highly variable across the region. In Elba, thrips pressure was up this week as they are now on the move from fields being harvested to adjacent unharvested fields with green foliage. In Oswego, thrips pressure is generally very low with several fields not yet tripping the spray threshold (0.6 to 1.0 thrips per leaf) to spray another insecticide after Movento. Thrips were generally below the spray threshold in Wayne Co. this week, following applications of Minecto Pro. Note, that it is common for thrips numbers to drop once the onions stop putting on new leaves. When scouting for thrips in plants that are not putting on new leaves, the thrips are no longer nestled in the leaf axils and you need to inspect all over the leaf foliage to find them. If you just check the leaf axils, you may be deceived of the actual thrips pressure.

Incidence of Stemphylium leaf blight (SLB) was close to 100% in Elba and Wayne Co. this week, and lower in Oswego. Severity of SLB remains minor/secondary and well under control in most fields, which means that mostly tan-colored SLB targets that are unassuming in appearance are present on necrotic tissue and SLB tip colonization is tan or brown in color. Moderate SLB severity/primary SLB is characterized by SLB target lesions that "pop" on necrotic tissue with increased frequency of black and purple target spot lesions, especially on green tissue (Fig. 1), and black leaf tip colonization "dirty tips (Fig. 2). So far, we haven't had any fields suffer from excessive leaf dieback caused from SLB. Viathon 3 pt/A + Tilt 8 fl oz/A continues to be the best treatment for SLB in both growers' fields and fungicide trials, especially for keeping foliage green/preventing excessive leaf dieback. Luna Tranquility 16 fl oz/A + Rovral 1 pt/A also appears to be working well. Finishing off fungicide spray programs while adhering to strict fungicide restrictions to not

Figure 1. The appearance of Stemphylium leaf blight (SLB) when it is acting as a primary pathogen includes tan target spot lesions (pink arrows) on green leaf tissue. *Photo: C. Hoepting, CCE*

Figure 2. Moderate severity of Stemphylium leaf blight (SLB) includes black-colored sporulation of necrotic tissue of leaf tips. *Photo: C. Hoepting, CCE*

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apply more than three (two if possible) apps per FRAC is proving to be very challenging. Unfortunately, SLB is developing resistance to FRAC 3 in addition to already developing resistance to FRAC 2, 7, 9 and 11.

Conditions have actually been very good for Botrytis leaf blight (BLB) and we have seen a new bloom of BLB halo lesions in isolated pockets. More commonly, BLB necrotic spots (Fig. 3) and other "unidentified" necrotic spots (Fig. 4) increased this past week. Generally, preliminary results from our ongoing onion fungicide trials suggest that FRAC 3 fungicides (Viathon, Tilt, Quadris Top, Inspire Super) has best activity on BLB necrotic spots, followed by Bravo 3 pt and FRAC 7 (Luna Experience/Tranquility, Miravis Prime), while the FRAC 3s have poor activity on BLB halos. Despite being full of BLB halos, Viathon + Tilt is still best at keeping foliage green. Temperatures are above the optimum for downy mildew, but preventative fungicides are recommended at this time, including mancozeb, FRAC 11 (as in Quadris Top) or FRAC P07 (as in Viathon and Rampart/Revelie), because for this disease "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". Note, that Rovral does not have activity on DM. - CH

Figure 3. Necrotic spots of Botrytis leaf blight (BLB) are yellow or white spots with a defined border that range from pin-prick to 1 (or more) cm in size. *Photo: C. Hoepting, CCE*

Figure 4. "Unidentified" white necrotic spots on onion foliage that are white-colored with a non-defined border that range from 2-3 mm to 1 cm in size, and occur randomly along onion leaves. *Photo: C. Hoepting, CCE*

PEPPERS

As summer progresses, stems of some vegetable (and even flower) plants seem to wilt overnight. Green beans and peppers can see damage. Often the culprit is European corn borer (ECB) . A new generation of ECB larvae hatch from eggs laid on various plants besides corn. For peppers, what's worse is that ECB can also burrow into very small fruit. Fruit rots can occur but sometimes no damage is noticed until a customer cuts into it. A spray program can be used if following ECB trap counts (sweet corn network). Applications are made every 7 - 10 days when moth numbers are highest (females looking to lay eggs). Follow the Vegetable Guidelines for more information and all product label directions. Some products include: Asana, Radiant, Lannate, Warrior II, and Mustang MAX. For organic choices, Bt and Entrust SC. - RH

POTATOES

Continue to be proactive with regular fungicide applications. The second generation of Colorado potato beetles are showing up in potatoes. Monitor fields for small larvae for best management timing. –ML

Simcast forecasting indicates that Buffalo, Ceres, Farmington, Fulton, Niagara Falls, Penn Yan, Rochester, Sodus, and Wellsville have surpassed the 30 blight units (BU) needed to trigger a spray for late blight. Most other sites are expected to surpass 30 BU by the end of the week. For locations that are not close to a weather station, forecast information should only be used as a general indication of how favorable weather has been for late blight. Forecast BUs are subject to changes as the weather forecast changes, so check forecasting tools regularly to see if disease forecasts have changed.

Late Blight Risk Chart, 8/4/21

Location	Blight Units 7/28-8/3[1]	Blight Units 8/4-8/6[2]	Location	Blight Units 7/28-8/3	Blight Units 8/4-8/6
Albion	12	19	Geneva	18	18
Arkport	-	-	Hammondsport	18	15
Baldwinsville	0	12	Knowlesville	16	19
Bergen	15	18	Lyndonville	14	18
Brant	15	19	Medina	28	20
Buffalo	31	16	Niagara Falls	36	18
Burt	5	19	Penn Yan	40	17
Ceres	41	19	Rochester	37	18
Elba	23	19	Sodus	36	19
Fairville	23	19	Versailles	0	12
Farmington	38	19	Wellsville	43	21
Fulton	34	20	Williamson	0	13

Calculated using a May 26 crop emergence date, last fungicide application July 28, cultivar Reba

1 Past week Simcast Blight Units (BU)
2 Three-day predicted Simcast Blight Units (BU)

Late blight has been reported in tomato in South Carolina, and in potato in Wisconsin in the past week. – ML

SNAP BEANS

Later planted beans are usually at higher risk for Sclerotinia white mold (WM) because of increased soil and canopy wetness (unless we get into a drought situation). Fields with a history of WM and with dense canopies are at highest risk. Fungicides must be applied at the start of bloom (see the July 14 issue of VegEdge, page 7). Pythium crown rot can be easily confused with WM. Pythium has dry, reddish-brown to black streaks on the crowns and lower stems that cause the plants to wilt and

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die. White mold can be distinguished from Pythium by the mounds of white, cottony mycelium and wet, brown to black streaks on the stems. Unfortunately, if you see either one of these diseases develop, there is nothing that can be done this year. Take note and make sure to rotate into grains or other non-susceptible crops for several years. - JK



Pythium crown rot on beans (left). White mold on bean stems (right). *Photos: J. Kikkert, CCE*

SQUASH AND MELONS

Aphids on these two crops can be mostly cosmetic. Honeydew from the aphids drips onto the melon or squash. The honeydew then becomes colonized by sooty mold which like the name implies gives a black powdery appearance. This will need to be washed off before sales. Aphids can also transmit virus to zucchini, summer squash, watermelon and pumpkins. Several products work against the aphids including Assail and BeLeaf. For organic growers, horticultural oils (follow label instructions pertaining to field temperatures and phytotoxicity) and insecticidal soap. Frequent applications will be needed and thorough coverage to get into the hard-to-reach places where aphids can hide. - RH

SWEET CORN

Birds are very active in fresh market and processing fields in some areas. Multiple scare tactics are generally needed. We have our test laser scarecrows from Cornell and University of Rhode Island in the field and are collecting data. These two devices require adjustments and getting used to using them in the field. It is a learning year for us. We have posted the video and transcript from the laser scarecrow session at the 2021 Empire State Producers Expo on our website for your reference https://cvp.cce.cornell.edu/ . You can also learn about the commercially available device from Bird Control Group in the video. This year's results will be reported at our winter meetings next year. - JK

Western Bean Cutworm Report in Dry Beans: Hitting Peak Flight

Margie Lund, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell Vegetable Program, and Marion Zuefle, NYS IPM Program

Trap catch numbers remain high at most locations this week, and all locations besides Penn Yan E and N are above a cumulative 50 moths. Growers should scout adjacent corn fields when cumulative WBC have reached >50 moths per trap. Both the trap reports and scouting corn in fields near dry beans can help determine the risk. Many trap locations hit peak flight last week, with the rest likely hitting peak this week (see red highlighted trap counts in table). Historically, peak flight for WBC is in the last week of July to early August. **Dry bean pod scouting should begin 7 to 10 days after peak emergence, regardless of cumulative WBC trap catch**, and especially where WBC has been found in bean pods/seeds in recent years.

To scout for WBC, inspect 50 plants per field (10 stops, 5 plants per stop), looking at all pods present on the plant for holes. WBC chew directly into the pod and eat the seed. It can be difficult to scout dry beans for egg masses or caterpillars, since the caterpillars move from the pods to the soil during the daytime, so looking for signs of damage is the best strategy. European corn borer damage (ECB) may be similar to WBC, but an ECB larva would likely still be present in the pod. If damage into the pod and seed is found with no larva present, it is possible this is WBC. A spray is recommended if dry bean pod damage is found.


Early damage made by small WBC larvae.


Later feeding damage going through pod and into beans.


European corn borer larva in pod.

Western bean cutworm (WBC) adult numbers by date for each dry bean trap location. Traps were set on 6/29/21. Red indicates peak flight.

Dry Bean Location	7/6/21	7/13/21	7/20/21	7/27/21	8/3/21	Cumulative WBC
Avoca Hill (Steuben Co.)	5	4	35	269	167	480
Avoca Valley (Steuben Co.)	1	1	17	97	94	209
Caledonia (Livingston Co.)	0	9	27	102	80	218
Pavilion (Genesee Co.)	0	0	22	87	67	177
Penfield (Monroe Co.)	0	1	74	124	278	486
Penn Yan E (Yates Co.)	0	1	8	18	20	47
Penn Yan N (Yates Co.)	0	2	0	12	29	43
Riga (Monroe Co.)	0	2	47	62	42	153
LeRoy (Genesee Co.)	1	15	62	86	35	199
Wyoming (Wyoming Co.)	0	3	25	90	115	233
Wayland (Steuben Co.)	6	5	21	277	231	540

Upcoming Events

Events are listed at CVP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU

Chautauqua County Soil Health Field Day

August 25, 2021 (Wednesday) | 9:15am - 12:30pm
Lesch Farms, 4893 W Main Rd (tent in field), Fredonia, NY

1.5 NYS DEC pesticide recertification credits available (Category 1A and 21). This is a soil health field day with presentations and demonstrations:

- Overview of Lesch Farms tillage and cover crop practices and equipment
- Info on programs available from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service and Chautauqua County Soil and Water Conservation District to assist with implementing soil health practices.
- NY Soil Health Trailer demonstrations
- pest challenges with changing tillage practice
- View and discuss soil pits, highlighting soil health indicators and how soil properties influence soil function

FREE to attend; no pre-registration required. QUESTIONS? Contact Lisa Kempisty, Extension Educator in Chautauqua County at 716-664-9502, Ext 203.

Wash/Pack Project Improvement Workshops

Wednesday evenings (dates below) | 6:00pm - 8:30pm
Live online (and recorded for future viewing)

The SCRUB (Sanitizing and Cleaning Resources for yoUr Business) Specialist are available to help you overcome a post-harvest bottleneck, or improve your wash/pack. Topic areas and workshop dates are listed below. **Space is limited to 15 farms per topic.** To indicate your interest in participating, please complete a short form at: https://forms.gle/JYVeJVdfUKsGh3dz9 Please sign up by August 16, 2021.

Farms that sign up for individual assistance with their projects will be asked to take part in a virtual workshop with other growers working on the same topic, where challenges, plans and resources are discussed as a group. As a participant, you will:

- Complete a draft project improvement plan (a template will be provided to guide this process)
- Implement the revised project plan on your farm
- Document your results with photos and a brief description of what you did and share with workshop leads

September 1 – Bin Blitz – Experienced growers and UVMs Ag Engineering present new strategies and cleaning tools to increase the efficiency and efficacy of bin cleaning, sanitation and management practices.

September 8 – Low Cost and High Value – Evaluate low-cost improvements that make a big difference.

September 15 – Wash/Pack Floors – Learn to improve or repair a concrete floor so that it is smooth and easy to clean.

September 22 – Wash Water Management

September 29 – Employee Management and Empowerment

October 6, 2021 – Bubblers/Aerators for Greens Washing

Contact Robert Hadad (rgh26@cornell.edu, 585-739-4065) or Caitlin Tucker (cv275@cornell.edu, 573-544-4783) for more info.

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