Vegetable Crop Update

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

No. 25 – September 16, 2012

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Calendar of Events

October 24&25 – Hancock ARS-Storage Research Facility, Potato Variety Harvest Expo, 8AM-4:30PM

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.

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

Late blight updates: As of the time of this report, late blight has been confirmed in 10 WI counties, as listed in table below. Over the past month, late blight confirmations have come from potato and tomato, with all samples indicating the US-23 clonal lineage of the *Phytophthora infestans* pathogen. Reports in the past week have been on tomato.

County	Crop	Date of Detection	Clonal Lineage of the Late Blight Pathogen
Barron	Potato/Tomato	31 July 2012	US-23
Adams	Potato/Tomato	31 July 2012	US-23
Portage	Potato/Tomato	2 August 2012	US-23
Oneida	Potato	4 August 2012	US-23
Waushara	Potato/Tomato	20 August 2012	US-23
Marathon	Potato/Tomato	22 August 2012	US-23
Rusk	Tomato	23 August 2012	US-23
Sheboygan	Tomato	24 August 2012	US-23
Sauk	Tomato	10 September 2012	In process
Eau Claire	Tomato	14 September 2012	In process

Continued scouting of susceptible tomato and potato crops is necessary to maintain healthy production through final harvest. Potato tubers below ground can continue to be susceptible even after vines have senesced. Please see past week's newsletter article for further details on tuber blight (link below).
http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/wivegdis/pdf/2012/August%2022%202012%20Number%2022.pdf

Nationally, new late blight reports in the past week have come from NJ (tomato), NY (tomato and potato), and PA (tomato and potato). To date this production year, late blight has been reported in CA, CT, DE, FL, MA, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, VA, VT, WI, and Ontario Canada. The website: http://www.usablight.org/ indicates location of positive reports of late blight in the U.S. and provides further information on disease characteristics and management.

In order to help better understand the epidemic at hand, please submit samples to my lab or work through your county agent and request that they send to me for genotyping. We are also offering free diagnostic services for potential late blight samples (along with the UW-Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic). All we need to know is the county of sample origin. Lab address: Amanda Gevens, 1630 Linden Dr, Room 689, Plant Pathology Dept., University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706. Please send infected leaves in a slightly inflated ziplock bag with no paper towel. Overnight shipping is best.

Current P-Day (Early Blight) and Severity Value (Late Blight) Accumulations. ***Thresholds for both diseases have been met. Accumulations will continue to be provided until the end of potato production season. Thank you to Vaughan James for his efforts in this reporting.***

Location	Planted	50% Emergence	P-Day Cumulative	DSV Cumulative	Calculation Date
Antigo Area	Early 5/1	5/30	730	56	9/11
	Mid 5/10	6/6	693	56	9/11
	Late 6/1	6/16	626	56	9/11
Grand Marsh Area	Early 4/3	5/8	866	62	9/11
	Mid 4/15	5/16	820	62	9/11
	Late 4/30	NA	764	61	9/11
Hancock Area	Early 4/1	5/1	955	39	9/11
	Mid 4/15	5/10	898	33	9/11
	Late 5/1	5/17	854	33	9/11
Plover Area	Early 4/3	5/17	865	57	9/11
	Mid 4/19	5/18	800	57	9/11
	Late 5/1	5/27	737	53	9/11

Potato Crop Update from the Wisconsin Seed Potato Certification Program – Amy Charkowski, Administrative Director of Certification Program, Department of Plant Pathology, UW-Madison, Tel. No. 608-262-9711, email: amyc@plantpath.wisc.edu

Submitted by Amy Charkowski, Alex Crockford, and Keith Heinzen: The seed potato harvest in the Antigo region looks good this year. The recent dry weather has not impaired harvest and growers have been satisfied with their yields. Hollow heart incidence appears to be lower than last year. The recent cool weather has helped in cooling down the crop as it goes into

storage.

The State Farm harvest has also been good, with nice uniformity, color, and skin set. The yields for most varieties were good, although yields are lower than previous years due to an early vine kill. Although we did not find late blight on the State Farm, we decided to kill the vines a bit earlier than usual due to late blight finds in the region. Except for Russet Norkotah, we have not seen oversize potatoes. Most of the harvested potatoes are in the 5 to 10 oz range.

The State Farm has been able to participate in a recent Case IH program that provides tractors and other farm equipment to UW-Madison farms at a very reasonable rental rate and this has greatly helped with the State Farm season. We are very appreciative of having access to this equipment. We anticipate being able to participate in this again in 2013 and we are looking forward to this.

The certification program is already getting ready for the post-harvest test in Florida. We have sent out winter test tags and the crop directory is at the printers.

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Potato Variety Harvest Expo

The SpudPro Committee is looking for your feedback on varieties that may be selected for potato breeding advancement. Visit the Hancock Agricultural Research Station anytime from 8am to 4:30pm on Oct 24 & 25, 2012 to cast your vote for the new reds, processing russet, fresh russet and chipping potatoes that you would like to see selected for advancement in the SpudPro breeding program. The expo will include material harvested from the Wisconsin Potato Variety and SpudPro Trials, selections from the Wisconsin Breeding Program team and other specialty and heirloom potato varieties.