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Emergency Forage and Crop Insurance Rules
Paul D. Mitchell, Agricultural and Applied Economics, UW-Madison/Extension

This year, many Wisconsin farmers are looking to plant a late summer/early fall crop to produce some extra forage or simply as a cover crop. This bulletin reminds farmers of crop insurance rules so that they do not inadvertently lose crop insurance coverage for crops planted in the spring of 2013 after a forage/cover crop planted this summer/fall.

Click here to view or print the PDF or scroll down to the bottom of this newsletter.

Vegetable Crop Update 8/11/12
The 20th issue of the Vegetable Crop Update is now available. This issue contains late and early blight updates as well as cucurbit downy mildew updates. Click here to view this update.

Major Migration of Corn Earworm Moths in Progress
Eileen Cullen, Extension Entomologist


A major migration of corn earworm moths is in progress. Counts at the Ripon trapping sites increased to 271 and 503 moths per trap last week, while counts at four of five Dane County sites escalated to 81-250 per trap this week. Larvae of various maturities can be found statewide. Examination of field corn in Buffalo, Chippewa, Eau Claire, Jackson and Trempealeau counties found minor infestations of 2-6%. Most earworms were in the intermediate to late instars, although a few were very small.

Sweet corn growers should continue to monitor fields for egg laying as long as moth activity persists and green silks are present. Counts this week were: Aztalan 130, Chippewa Falls 10, Columbus 81, Coon Valley 38, Janesville 10, Manitowoc 0, Marshfield 2, Oregon 36, Ripona 146, Riponb 206, Sun Prairie 130, Wausau 0 and Westport 250.

--Krista Hamilton, DATCP Entomologist

Wisconsin Pest Bulletin 8/16/12
A new issue of the Wisconsin Pest Bulletin from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is now available. The Wisconsin Pest Bulletin provides up-to-date pest population estimates, pest distribution and development data, pest survey and inspection results, alerts to new pest finds in the state, and forecasts for Wisconsin’s most damaging plant pests.

Issue No.18 of the Wisconsin Pest Bulletin is now available at:
http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/pb/index.jsp

UW Extension/Madison Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC)
Brian Hudelson, Ann Joy, Amanda Zimmerman, Andrew Pape, Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

The PDDC receives samples of many plant samples from around the state. The following diseases/disorders have been identified at the PDDC from August 3 through August 9, 2012:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANT/SAMPLE TYPE</th>
<th>DISEASE/DISORDER</th>
<th>PATHOGEN</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FIELD CROPS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>Fusarium StalkRot</td>
<td>Fusarium oxysporum</td>
<td>Marinette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gibberella Stalk Rot</td>
<td>Fusarium graminearum</td>
<td>Marinette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRUITS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cranberry</td>
<td>Bitter Rot</td>
<td>Colletotrichum sp.</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
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<td>Raspberry</td>
<td>Anthracnose</td>
<td>Sphaecelomonanecator</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cane Botrytis</td>
<td>Botrytis cinerea</td>
<td>Bayfield</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raspberry Leaf Spot</td>
<td>Septoria darrowii</td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Root/Crown Rot</td>
<td>Pythium sp., Fusarium sp., Cylindrocarpon sp.</td>
<td>Bayfield</td>
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<tr>
<td>VEGETABLES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage</td>
<td>Root Rot</td>
<td>Phytophthora sp.</td>
<td>Waupaca</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pepper</td>
<td>Bacterial Spot</td>
<td>Xanthomonas campestris pv. vesicatoria</td>
<td>Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blossom End Rot</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Fond du Lac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepper</td>
<td>Bacterial Canker</td>
<td>Clavibacter michiganensis subsp. michiganensis</td>
<td>Dane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Early Blight</td>
<td>Alternaria solani</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For additional information on plant diseases and their control, visit the PDDC website at pddc.wisc.edu.
This year, many Wisconsin farmers are looking to plant a late summer/early fall crop to produce some extra forage or simply as a cover crop. This bulletin reminds farmers of crop insurance rules so that they do not inadvertently lose crop insurance coverage for crops planted in the spring of 2013 after a forage/cover crop planted this summer/fall.

A forage/cover crop planted this summer/fall in general will not be insurable. For example, if a grower plants rye or oat/peas for harvest this fall as forage, it is not insurable under a forage production policy, but the grower can harvest this uninsured forage/cover crop for forage as desired this fall. However, if in 2013 a grower wants to plant and insure corn, soybeans or another crop after this forage/cover crop, specific rules apply.

First, a grower cannot harvest the forage/cover crop for forage or hay in the spring of 2013 and then plant and insure a crop like corn or soybeans – crops planted after an early season forage harvest are not insurable. Furthermore, the forage/cover crop must be terminated before it reaches the headed or budded stage, otherwise any crop planted after this forage/cover crop is not insurable. The rules state that none of the forage/cover crop can be headed or budded, so growers will need to watch their forage/cover crops in the spring to make sure they are terminated using tillage or herbicide before any plants reach this phase.

In the spring of 2013, a grower can graze the forage/cover crop, and then plant corn or soybeans and insure that crop, as grazing is not considered harvesting. However, the grazed forage/cover crop must still be terminated before it reaches the headed or budded stage, otherwise any crop planted after it is not insurable. Note that just those acres from which the forage/cover crop was harvested in the spring of 2013 or on which the forage/cover crop was not terminated early enough will be excluded from crop insurance coverage. All the other acres that meet crop insurance eligibility rules can still be insured.

Timeline

2012

Summer: Harvest small grain/corn silage/vegetables
Summer/Fall: Plant forage/cover crop (uninsured)
Fall: Harvest or graze forage/cover crop

2013

Early Spring: Optionally graze forage/cover crop (do not harvest)
Spring: Terminate forage/cover crop before it heads or buds
Spring: Plant and insure corn, soybeans or other crop

For More Information
Contact your crop insurance agent or the author for more detailed questions. Also, see the UW Extension FYI Drought 2012 web page http://fyi.uwex.edu/drought2012/ or contact your local UW Extension Agent for information on drought and emergency forage options.
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