

Wisconsin Crop Manager

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Wisconsin Pest Bulletin 8/21/14

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. 16 of the Wisconsin Pest Bulletin is now available at:

<http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/pb/index.jsp>

<http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/pb/pdf/08-21-14.pdf>

Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) Update

Brian Hudelson, Ann Joy, Joyce Wu, Tom Hinsenkamp, and Catherine Wendt, Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

The PDDC receives samples of many plant and soil samples from around the state. The following diseases/disorders have been identified at the PDDC from August 16, 2014 through August 22, 2014.

Plant/Sample Type, Disease/Disorder, Pathogen, County

FIELD CROPS,

Corn, Goss' Wilt, *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *michiganensis*, Lafayette

Soybean, Pod and Stem Blight, *Phomopsis* sp., Buffalo

Soybean, Root Rot, *Rhizoctonia solani*, *Pythium* sp., *Fusarium* spp., Green Lake, Sheboygan

FRUIT CROPS,

Apple, Cytospora Canker, *Cytospora* sp., Florence

Cranberry, Early Rot, *Phyllosticta vacinii*, Wood

Raspberry, Cane Blight, *Coniothyrium fuckelii*, Racine

Strawberry, Root Rot, *Rhizoctonia solani*, *Pythium* sp., *Fusarium* spp., Waupaca

VEGETABLES,

Basil, Downy Mildew, *Peronospora belbahrii*, Washington

Dill, Cercosporoid Leaf Blight, *Passalora punctum*, Barron

Pepper, Bacterial Spot, *Xanthomonas* sp., Shawano

Squash (Winter), *Phytophthora* Crown and Root Rot, *Phytophthora capsici*, Racine

Tomato, Black Dot Root Rot, *Colletotrichum* sp., Dane

Tomato, Bacterial Canker, *Clavibacter michiganensis* ps. *Michiganensis*, Racine

Tomato, Dagger Nematode*, *Xiphinema* sp., Dane

Tomato, Septoria Leaf Spot, *Septoria lycopersici*, Portage, Racine, Shawano

SPECIALTY,

Ginseng, Rusty Root, *Rhexocercosporidium* sp., Delta (MI)

Tobacco, Barn Rot, *Rhizopus* sp., Rock

*Diagnosis performed by the UW-Madison Nematode Diagnostic Lab

For additional information on plant diseases and their control, visit the PDDC website at pddc.wisc.edu.

Wisconsin Corn and Soybean Disease Update – August 21, 2014

Damon L. Smith – Extension Field Crops Pathologist, University of Wisconsin

I have spent the last several days rating and scouting corn and soybeans in the southern tier of Wisconsin. There are a few active diseases out there to keep track of.

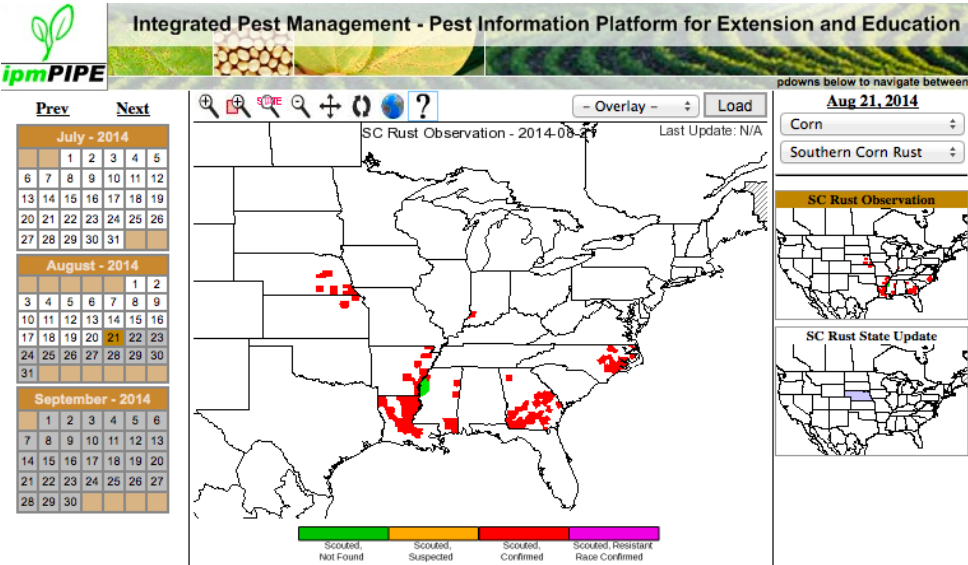


Figure 1. IPM Pipe Southern Corn Rust Advisory for August 21, 2014.

Field Corn

In field corn we have found a few fields with low levels of northern corn leaf blight (NCLB). Levels of NCLB seem to be a bit higher in southwestern Wisconsin. Severity on lower leaves in field corn was in the 10 – 15% range, with no damage apparent on ear leaves. Around the Arlington, WI area, NCLB is very limited with only a few lesions evident every 100 ft. or so.

Eyespot is becoming more evident in field corn. In fields with corn debris from a previous crop, the severity levels are in the 25-30% range on lower leaves and 10-15% on ear leaves.

Low levels of common rust (less than 5%) can also be found on some field corn hybrids in Southern Wisconsin.

Southern rust has been reported as far north as east-central Nebraska. The southern rust epidemic is being monitored closely in the Midwest. No southern rust has been found or reported in Wisconsin (Fig. 1).

[For more information about corn diseases in Wisconsin, see my previous article by clicking here.](#)

Sweet Corn

Several fields with severe epidemics of NCLB on sweet corn have been reported. These were late-planted fields. Sweet corn is generally more susceptible to NCLB than field corn. Common rust and eyespot can also be found at varying levels on sweet corn in the central and southern portion of Wisconsin.

In research plots at the Arlington Agricultural Research Station, sweet corn planted on June 25th is beginning to tassel. Levels of NCLB are currently low in this field, but common rust is increasing rapidly. Some leaves have 20-25% severity. Any late-planted and/or susceptible varieties of sweet corn should be monitored closely for foliar disease and any decision to spray fungicide should be made by the tasseling/R1 growth stage.

Soybean

The most widespread disease on soybean that we have observed is Septoria brown spot. Overall levels of Septoria brown spot are low, and can mostly only be found on lower leaves, which is typical for this disease. In many cases a fungicide specifically for this disease is not warranted in Wisconsin, unless there are factors that might lead to increased levels of severity, including continuous soybean rotation, very susceptible varieties, or extremely conducive weather. Most soybean fields are past the R3 growth stage, when a fungicide application might be beneficial for control of foliar diseases. However, this disease should be monitored in fields that were planted late.

Downy mildew has also been observed on soybean in various areas from central to southern Wisconsin. Fungicide application for control of this disease has not proven beneficial in university research trials. Therefore, fungicide application is not recommended for this disease under most circumstances. In soybean fields that are irrigated, the frequency between irrigation events should be lengthened in order to reduce the levels of downy mildew. Warmer, dry weather will also further reduce the level of downy mildew.



Figure 2. Damage from white mold in a soybean field under irrigation.

Active white mold has been found in fields in the central and southern portions of Wisconsin. Severity levels vary greatly depending on the fields and level of previous infestation by the white mold fungus. We have observed levels ranging from a few plants in spotty areas of a field to widespread damage with plant mortality across the entire field. The latter case was in a field with a history of white mold and frequent overhead irrigation (Figure 2). Application of fungicide for control of white mold is not recommended after the R3 growth stage. However, fields should be scouted and damage noted to

facilitate future planting and management decision in that field. Fields with white mold should be harvested after fields that do not have white mold. The black survival structures (sclerotia; resemble rat droppings) of the white mold fungus can be easily spread on combines from one field to the next. If harvesting white mold infested fields last is not feasible, care should be taken to thoroughly clean combine mechanisms where soybean trash and debris can be trapped, between fields. For more information about white mold and management of the disease, [click here](#). To watch a short video about white mold you can [click here](#).

Other diseases such as brown stem rot, sudden death syndrome, and stem canker have been found at extremely low levels in soybean fields in Wisconsin this season. This situation should be monitored closely as soybeans approach the R6 and R7 growth stages. These two diseases may become more apparent at that time. Again, good record keeping of where these diseases are found can facilitate future management decisions for those fields.

Vegetable Crop Update 8/23/14

The 19th issue of the Vegetable Crop Update is now available. This issue contains late blight updates (confirmed reports in Portage, Milwaukee, Racine, Adams, and Waushara Counties), Blitecast and P-Days for late/early blight management, Cucurbit Downy Mildew updates, White mold in bean and vegetable crops, and Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic Updates. Click [here](#) to view this issue.

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