



WEEKLY CROP UPDATE

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

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Vegetable Crops

Vegetable Insect Update - May 11, 2018 -

David Owens, Extension Entomologist,
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Second generation seedcorn maggot is extremely active. There are no rescue treatments for maggot damage. If your field is at risk and you are planting right into an attractive field (one with recent organic matter incorporation), and you have had a history of seedcorn maggot, you should consider an insecticide either as a seed treatment or an in furrow product.

Speaking of maggots, the insecticide Belay (Clothianidin; Valent) now has a 2(ee) recommendation for root maggot control in Brassica leafy vegetables. You can access the recommendation here:
<http://www.cdms.net/ldat/ld8J6003.pdf>. It has a 3 week pre-harvest interval.

Summer Soil Building Crop Options for Delmarva Vegetable Growers -

Gordon Johnson, Extension Vegetable & Fruit Specialist;
gcjohn@udel.edu

Where possible, vegetable growers should consider the use of summer soil building crops. This can be between spring and fall crops, prior to mid-season plantings or anytime there is about 6-8 weeks of fallow time. Use of these summer soil improving crops can help maintain or increase organic matter levels, address certain soil disease issues (fungal pathogens,

nematodes), add nitrogen to the soil (in the case of legumes), reduce weed pressure, and improve soil physical characteristics.

The following are some soil building crops for summer use that I recommend:

Legumes

Cowpea (Vigna unguiculata)

Also known as blackeye or southern pea, this crop is underutilized in our area. It is fast growing with peak biomass often in 60 days. Cowpeas can fix up to 100 lbs of N per acre with biomass of 3000-4000 lbs/a. Cowpeas grow well in poor soils and can handle droughty conditions. Drill at 40-50 lbs per acre. Certain varieties such as California Blackeye #5 and Mississippi Silver are poor nematode hosts and will be beneficial in systems where root knot nematode is a problem. See this site for nematode ratings of different cowpea varieties http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in516#TABLE_1. Cowpeas also can be harvested in the immature pod stage as a fresh legume so can serve dual purpose in small farms.

Soybean

Soybean can also be a good cover crop drilled at 60 lbs per acre. Forage-type soybeans produce considerable biomass and make excellent cover crops. For nematode suppression, use of root knot nematode resistant varieties may be beneficial. Edamame types can be harvested and sold in green pod stage and the residue returned to the soil for soil building, again serving a dual purpose on small farms.

Sunn hemp (Crotalaria juncea)

Sunn hemp is a tropical legume that is used

extensively for soil building in countries such as Brazil and India. Drill 20-30 lbs of seed per acre. Sunhemp can produce very high amounts of biomass (10 ton biomass is not unheard of in Florida - amounts will be lower here on Delmarva, expect 3-4 tons). It is a high nitrogen fixing legume and can contribute over 100 lbs of N to a following crop. Sunhemp grows very fast in the summer, reaching 6 feet or taller in 8 weeks. However, a better way to manage sunhemp is to let it grow to about 1-3 feet tall, then mow it and let it regrow again. If allowed to get too tall and old the stems will become tough and fibrous and will not decompose rapidly. Sunhemp is a day length sensitive crop. It will grow any time during the summer, however it will not flower and go to seed until the days start getting shorter in very late summer.

Non Legumes

Sudangrass and Sorghum-Sudangrass hybrids (*Sorghum bicolor* x *S. sudanense*)
Sudangrass is a forage crop in the Sorghum family. Sorghum-sudangrass is a cross between forage or grain sorghum and sudangrass. These are warm-season annual grasses that grow well in hot conditions and produces a large amount of biomass. Plant at 20-40 lbs per acre drilled. Of all the non-legumes, it is the most useful for soil building. Sorghum-sudangrass will often reach 6 ft in height. Like sunhemp, it can be mowed and allowed to regrow to enhance biomass production and have younger material that decomposes more quickly. Expect 3-4 tons of biomass addition per acre. As a grass, to get the most growth you will need to add nitrogen fertilizer (40-80 lbs/a). If incorporated at a young stage, the nitrogen will be re-released for the following crop. Sorghum-sudangrass is very effective at suppressing weeds and has been shown to have allelopathic and biofumigant properties. Research on nematode suppression by sorghum-sudangrass is mixed with some studies showing that sorghum-sudangrass suppresses nematode levels. Choose finer stemmed, leafy varieties when available. Brown midrib types will decompose more quickly because they have less lignin.

Forage-type Pearl Millet (*Pennisetum glaucum*)
Pearl millet is a tall summer annual grass that grows 4 to 8 ft. tall. It is well adapted to sandy

and/or infertile soils and does well in the summer heat. Forage types are better adapted for soil improvement than the grain types. Seed at 20-30 lbs/a drilled. Expect 3-4 tons of biomass addition per acre. Again, as a grass, to get the most growth you will need to add nitrogen fertilizer (40-80 lbs/a). Pearl millet has been shown to suppress some nematodes. Forage pearl millet can make a good mulch for late-summer planted crops no-till or strip till.

All these crops above can be planted from late May through late July for soil improvement use.

There are many other possibilities for summer soil improving including several other millets, brassicas, and buckwheat, however the ones listed above are my recommendations for growers on Delmarva to try.

Spinach Leafminer and Beet Leafminer -
Jerry Brust, IPM Vegetable Specialist, University of Maryland; jbrust@umd.edu

In high tunnels and in the field, I have been seeing spinach or beet leaf miner *Pegomya hyoscyami* and *P. betae* respectively in swiss chard and spinach. These leafminers are a type of blotch leafminer, creating irregularly shaped mines (Fig.1). Adults are small flies about $\frac{1}{3}$ inch in length and gray to brown. Larvae are whitish and cone-shaped. Flies of both species overwinter as pupae in the soil. In April and early May (although this can occur in March if in a high tunnel), flies emerge and lay white eggs in groups of 4-8 on the underside of leaves. Eggs hatch and larvae feed within the leaf tissue. As the larvae feed and develop, they create areas of dead tissue where they have fed. These areas are opaque at first and then later turn brown (Fig. 2). Once inside the leaf tissue larvae are difficult if not impossible to control. The larvae are active for about two to three weeks, before dropping to the ground and pupating in the soil. The entire life cycle is 30-40 days. There are three to four generations per season. Once the summer is over, leafminers will overwinter as a puparium in the soil emerging in early spring the next year to start the cycle again.

Both leafminers feed on spinach, Swiss chard, beets and weeds such as pigweed and lambsquarter. Leafminer activity has little impact on overall plant growth but can be quite damaging to vegetables grown for edible greens. So, a crop such as chard and spinach that you are trying to sell the leaves of are greatly impacted while something such as turnips or beets that you are selling the bulbs of are less impacted (unless you are selling the tops too).

The damage to Swiss chard and spinach I saw probably could have been less if the first infested leaves with leafminers had been removed and destroyed. However, once the population was in its second generation the damage was too extensive. Any additional plantings of spinach or chard this season (or next year) should be planted in a different area of the field because of the pupae still in the soil.

Once the spinach or chard is planted in a new area a row cover could be used to cover the plants and keep the leafminer flies out that eventually will emerge from previously infested areas. Applying insecticides helps prevent adults from laying eggs, but they do not kill larvae that are already feeding within plant leaves. Spinosad (organic) can provide good control and has only a minor impact on natural enemies. Neem oil also can be used to prevent adult egg laying but is not as effective as spinosad. As always thorough coverage is necessary for good control which includes getting the material to the underside of the leaf.



Figure 1. Leafminer in Swiss chard

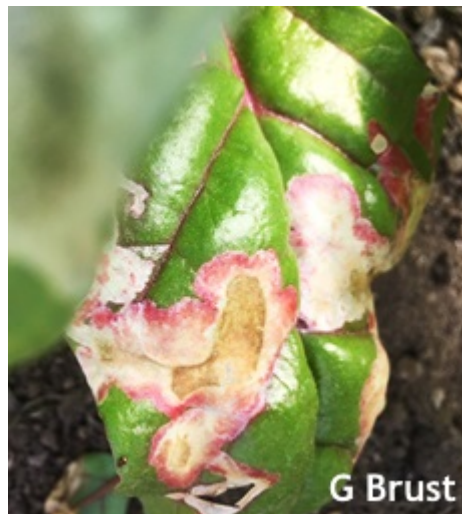


Figure 2. Leaf mine turning brown

Sowbugs Damaging Turnip and Radish Bulbs

– Jerry Brust, IPM Vegetable Specialist,
University of Maryland; jbrust@umd.edu

Something I do not see very often is sow bugs or pill bugs or roly-polys (Fig. 1) feeding on and damaging vegetables, in this case it was turnip and radish bulbs. Sow bugs are brown to gray and a half inch in length. Because they breathe through gills that need to be kept moist they are limited as to their ability to move to drier areas and have the tendency to cluster in dark moist areas during the day and feed at night. They are attracted to thick mulch or rich wet soils or decomposing compost piles.

At times tender foliage and roots of young vegetables can be on their menu when their populations are large, and the environment is wet. Sow bugs rarely cause much damage in the field, but in small densely grown areas of bulbs such as radish or turnips they can feed on the outer layers of the bulb (Fig. 2).

Sow bugs are difficult to control with just chemicals. It is better to eliminate their hiding places or alter their environment. Some ways to accomplish this is by removing any mulch from around plants or by improving drainage or by decreasing watering frequency if the ground is constantly moist. If sow bugs are still doing damage after efforts of altering their environment fail, a bait can be used which contains spinosad and iron phosphate.



Figure 1. Sow bugs in wet soil feeding on a turnip bulb



Figure 2. Sow bug damage to turnip bulb

Agronomic Crops

Agronomic Insect Update - May 11, 2018 -
David Owens, Extension Entomologist,
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Alfalfa

Continue scouting for alfalfa weevil defoliation. Alfalfa weevil are light green with a small black head and no legs. This is very different from armyworm which do have legs and are quite a bit larger and with a large head. I heard of a case last week in a nearby state where weevils were misidentified as worms and an ineffective product was applied. Also watch out for potato leaf hoppers causing 'hopperburn' - a yellowing around the leaf margins. Leafhoppers this early are more damaging on new alfalfa plants and

after the first cutting. We have a fact sheet on potato leaf hopper that can be found here:
<http://extension.udel.edu/factsheets/potato-leafhopper-control-in-alfalfa/>.

Small Grains

Cereal leaf beetle larvae can be found in fields at low numbers. Our threshold is 25/100 tillers. Sawflies also started showing up in fields, and true armyworm moth activity is starting to increase. Not every product labeled for armyworm is labeled for sawfly, so be sure to identify the critters accordingly. When two pests that feed in a similar manner show up in a field at below threshold numbers, a conservative approach would be to sum their population proportion of threshold and treat accordingly. For more management considerations of both sawfly and armyworm, see this week's guest the past answer for last week's.

Corn

Be sure to scout seedling corn for evidence of wire worm, white grub, armyworm, and cutworm pests. Armyworms and cutworms tend to be more active in fields with recent small grain cover crop. Management recommendations for corn pests can be found at:
<http://extension.udel.edu/ag/insect-management/field-corn/>.

Warmer Temperatures Have Helped Corn Along - Jarrod O. Miller, Extension Agronomist,
jarrod@udel.edu

Temperatures in the upper 80s last week helped produce the degree days needed for corn to emerge. Most fields we have observed have had emergence in about 6-7 days from planting. The corn in this photo below was planted on April 30th and was already above the soil by May 7th.



The table below estimates the growing degree days observed in each Delaware county over the last two weeks. Corn needs to accumulate between 100 to 125 GDD to emerge, so all three counties have accumulated the necessary warmth to get corn going since April 22-29th. If temperatures continue like normal, hovering in the 70s during the day (11-12 GDD per day), we can expect 8-10 days until emergence. If temperatures reach the upper 80s again and we accumulate 16-17 GDD, it may only take 6-7 days. So keep your eyes on the temperatures to predict when emergence may occur.

Table 1: Growing degree days accumulated over the last few weeks and the overall average per day.

	Sunday, April 22	Sunday, April 29	Sunday, May 6
Sussex	185	133	25
(GDD per day)	(12)	(16)	(13)
Kent	182	136	26
(GDD per day)	(11)	(17)	(13)
New Castle	158	125	27
(GDD per day)	(11)	(16)	(14)

To Treat or Not to Treat (Slugs), That is the Question! - Bill Cissel, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management; bcissel@udel.edu

With corn starting to pop up in rows, keep an eye out for slug feeding injury. Yea, that's right, SLUGS. Even though the current weather has been hot and dry, slugs are active at night and can still cause damage. Probably the biggest impact the weather has in helping with slugs is that corn, and soybeans for that matter, grow rapidly when we have plenty of sun and heat.

So, this brings us to the question, "To treat or not to treat"?



If the corn seedlings in your field all looked like the photo above, and given the current weather forecast, do you apply a slug bait? The answer to this is not simple and there is no substitute for experience when determining if your corn will "out compete" the slugs. I will follow the plant

in the photo for several weeks and we will see together if it is able to outgrow the slug damage.

What would you do if this were your field? Given the current weather forecast, would you treat this field with a slug bait?

Click on the link below and check YES or NO:

<http://www.udel.edu/004820>

Considerations for Irrigating Winter Wheat

- Phillip Sylvester, *Extension Agriculture Agent, Kent County*; phillip@udel.edu; Cory Whaley, *Extension Agriculture Agent, Sussex County*; whaley@udel.edu; James Adkins, *Associate Scientist-Irrigation Engineering*; adkins@udel.edu; Jarrod O. Miller, *Extension Agronomist*, jarrod@udel.edu

Wheat has quickly reached heading and is flowering in some parts of the state. This is an important time for Fusarium head blight management, which was discussed in the April 27 issue: click here

<http://extension.udel.edu/weeklycropupdate/?p=11688>

It is also important to pay attention to soil moisture during this critical time. Relatively warm temperatures and lack of recent rainfall may have depleted soil moisture levels. Although the forecast calls for thunderstorms, growers with the ability to irrigate should consider doing so, with the goal of keeping available water content >50%. There are a number of tools available to the grower for measuring soil moisture, ranging from electronic soil moisture sensors to a soil probe. It is probably too late to setup sensors in the field, but you can still estimate soil moisture by feel and appearance. Here is a helpful factsheet: click here https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs144p2_051845.pdf

Essentially, you use a soil probe to determine your soil moisture level within the depth of the root zone. If you determine soil moisture to be less the 50%, consider irrigating.

From 2013 to 2016, we conducted research at the UD Warrington Irrigation Research Farm to evaluate the impact of various irrigation strategies on yield and to determine the optimal

strategy to maximize yield (sponsored by the Delaware Crop Improvement Association). We'll skip right to the results - irrigation resulted in significantly higher yields in three of four years compared to a non-irrigated check. On average, yields were 7-14% higher compared to the non-irrigated check. There were only slight differences between the various irrigation strategies. However, we discovered a significant trend; adequate soil moisture levels must be maintained *before* flower and at levels high enough to support the crop through flowering and early grain fill. Our take home message is to consider irrigating during periods of dry, warm weather a couple of weeks *before* and *after* flowering. Growers should adopt an irrigation strategy that monitors soil moisture levels early on and that provides enough water to carry the plant through flowering and early grain fill. Given the extended period of dry weather and variable soils throughout the state, plan to check your own fields now. Continue to monitor your soil moisture level after each irrigation to ensure adequate water is available within the root zone. It may take multiple passes with the irrigation to fully recharge the soil profile. Finally, there is a concern that irrigating wheat during flower may increase the risk of Fusarium head blight. This is another reason growers should fill the profile before flower and resume irrigation after flower. However, if you need to irrigate during flower to protect yield, do so during the day, allowing enough time for the heads to dry before dusk.

Considerations for Palmer Amaranth

Control in Soybeans - Mark VanGessel, *Extension Weed Specialist*; mjv@udel.edu and Kurt M. Vollmer, *Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Delaware*; kvollmer@udel.edu

Control of Palmer amaranth in soybeans requires the right product, at the right rate, at the right time. Residual herbicides are important to slow the growth of Palmer amaranth and provide a wider application window. Since soybeans are planted later than corn, and soybeans are trying to get established when daily temperatures are consistently above 85°F, the Palmer amaranth is growing rapidly. Using a preemergence herbicide applied at planting is important. Our research

has shown consistently better control with applications made at planting compared to applications two weeks prior to planting. An herbicide combination has also provided better control than a single active ingredient, and helps reduce the risk of developing resistance to additional herbicide modes of action.

Tankmixing Valor or Authority products with metribuzin or a Group 15 herbicide provided more consistent control than either product alone. Remember most of the Palmer amaranth in this region is also resistant to Group 2 herbicides, so those products will not help with Palmer amaranth control (but may improve control of other species).

Using an active ingredient from 2 of the 3 groups will provide better Palmer amaranth control than a single active ingredient.

Group 15 (Inhibits long chain fatty acids)
pyroxasulfone: Zidua
pyroxasulfone: Anthem* or Anthem Maxx*
Dual Magnum
Warrant
Group 14 (PPO inhibitors)
Sulfentrazone (Authority)
Valor**
Group 5 (triazine)
metribuzin

*Anthem and Anthem Maxx are prepackaged mixtures, but the other components do not provide any residual weed control

**Valor should not be tankmixed with Dual or Warrant when used at planting

Partial list of prepackaged mixtures with two effective herbicides for Palmer amaranth:

- Authority Elite / BroadAxe: sulfentrazone plus pyroxasulfone
- Authority MTZ: sulfentrazone plus metribuzin
- Fierce: Valor plus Zidua
- Trivence: Valor plus metribuzin plus chlorimuron

Other prepackaged mixtures may contain more than one of the active ingredients in the table above, but the mixtures may not provide the right rate. Refer to table 4-2 in the Mid-Atlantic Field Crop Weed Management Guide for more information on the components of premixes.

Use the full-labeled rates; but as noted, be sure that a prepackaged mixture provides the right ratios to allow the key herbicide active ingredients to be at the right rate. Reducing herbicide rates will not provide as long of residual control, and using reduced rates could be setting yourself up for developing herbicide resistance due to the weed increasing its ability to metabolize the herbicide (deactivate the herbicide with plant enzymes).

Be prepared to spray your postemergence herbicides in a timely fashion. I like to see Palmer amaranth sprayed by 3 inches in height. It is at this height for a very short time, so be prepared to treat. Research at UD and with Ben Beale in Maryland, clearly shows that Palmer amaranth allowed to grow for more than 4 weeks, even if a preemergence herbicide was used, are often greater than 5 inches tall. If you are not on a routine scouting schedule, then plan on spraying your postemergence herbicide by 4 weeks after the preemergence herbicide was applied. In addition, your postemergence treatment needs to include an herbicide that will provide effective residual control; and this includes Reflex, Dual, Zidua, or Anthem Maxx. Liberty or dicamba products will not provide residual control for Palmer amaranth.

For more information on the right product and right rate, use the Mid-Atlantic Field Crop Weed Management Guide

(<http://extension.udel.edu/ag/weed-science/weed-management-guides/>)

Water is Needed to “Activate” Soil-Applied Herbicides - Mark VanGessel, *Extension Weed Specialist*; mjv@udel.edu

Herbicides applied to the soil surface require rainfall or irrigation to move them into the soil where the plants will absorb them; or to be mechanically incorporated (field cultivator). Some areas have not received much rainfall since herbicides were applied. Weed control will start to decline if water is not received within 5 to 7 days after applications. Some products, like those that contain atrazine, mesotrione (Callisto), or isoxaflutole (Balance) may be taken up by the roots and provide some control of seedlings after they have emerged. However,

Dual, Harness, and Zidua are absorbed by emerging shoots, so once weeds have emerged these products will not provide control. If you have irrigation and your corn herbicides have been applied but you have not received water, you should consider irrigating to activate those herbicides. Another caveat is that early-season competition from grass can reduce yield.

General

Guess the Pest! Week #6 Answer: True Armyworm - Bill Cissel, Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management; bcissel@udel.edu

Congratulations to John Swaine, III for correctly identifying the moths as true armyworms and for being selected to be entered into the end of season raffle for \$100 not once but five times. Everyone else who guessed correctly will also have their name entered into the raffle. Click on the Guess the Pest logo to participate in this week's Guess the Pest challenge!

Guess the Pest Week #6 Answers: True Armyworm
By Bill Cissel, Extension Agent, IPM and David Owens, Extension Entomologist



The correct answer to this past week's Guess the Pest is True Armyworm (TAW). Adult TAW moths do not cause any direct injury to small grains; however, they can be seen in your fields making sure there is another generation. True armyworm (TAW) larvae damage small grains by clipping flag leaves and small grain heads. It is important to be able to accurately identify true armyworms because there is another "worm" that is also considered a pest of small grains, the grass sawfly. The grass sawfly is in the Order Hymenoptera, meaning it is more closely related to bees and wasps than moths, which are in the Order Lepidoptera. Even though grass sawflies cause similar damage to small grains, management differs between these two species of insects.

There are several reasons why it is important to be able to distinguish between grass sawflies and true armyworms:

- 1) Grass sawflies are more damaging than true armyworms because they prefer to feed on small grain stems as opposed to true armyworms that typically will feed on leaves before clipping heads. Also, grass sawfly damage usually occurs before the peak of armyworm damage.
- 2) The threshold for grass sawflies (wheat and barley - 0.4 linear ft of row) is lower than the threshold for true armyworms (barley - 1 per linear ft of row/ wheat-1- 2 -per linear ft of row).
- 3) Not all products that are labeled for true armyworm control will provide control of grass sawflies.
- 4) Insecticide rates also differ between the two species for some products.

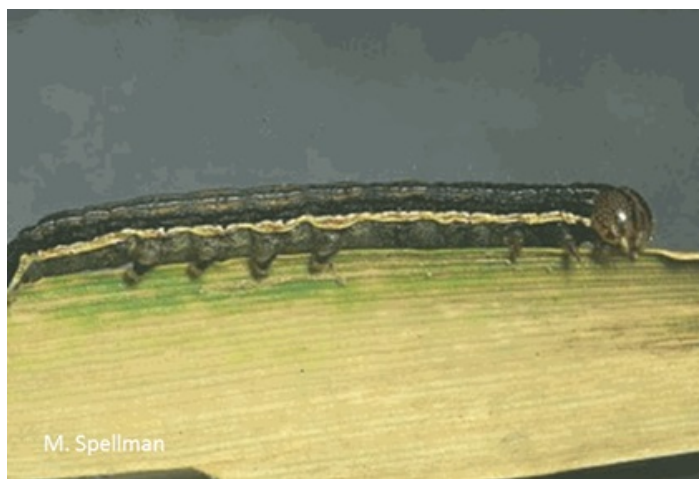
There are several features that can be used to distinguish grass sawflies from true armyworm.

Grass sawflies larvae are active during the day and can often be found on the plants so "shaking" plants to dislodge larvae is necessary when sampling. They can be identified by their green color, large amber head, and 5-7 pairs of fleshy prolegs. Counting the number of prolegs is the most reliable way to determine if the "worm" is a grass sawfly or true armyworm.



Grass Sawfly Larva

True armyworms are active at night and can often be found curled around the base of plants or under crop residue during the day. Larvae have **four pairs** of fleshy abdominal prolegs not including the pair of legs at the very end of the abdomen. There also appears to be a large gap between the 3 pairs of true legs and the start of the fleshy prolegs.



True Armyworm Larva

If your field is at threshold for grass sawflies or armyworms, there are several things to keep in mind when selecting which product to apply. Is the insecticide labeled for the correct pest, i.e. if you have grass sawflies, make sure you are using a product labeled for grass sawfly control? What is the days to harvest restriction (this varies among products)? Is the insecticide labeled for the crop (not all products are labeled for all small grains)?

Here is a link with sampling guidelines, thresholds, and insecticide recommendations

for true armyworm and grass sawfly:
<http://extension.udel.edu/ag/insect-management/small-grains/>

Guess the Pest! Week #7 - Bill Cissel,
 Extension Agent - Integrated Pest Management;
bcissel@udel.edu

Test your pest management knowledge by clicking on the GUESS THE PEST logo and submitting your best guess. For the 2018 season, we will have an "end of season" raffle for a \$100.00 gift card. Each week, one lucky winner will also be selected for a prize and have their name entered not once but five times into the end of season raffle.

This week, one lucky participant will also win A Farmer's Guide To Corn Diseases (\$29.95 value).

You can't win if you don't play!



What is this disease?



Crop Insurance: Claim Guidelines - Compiled by Lucas Clifton, Program Specialist, Targeted States RME, decrophelp@gmail.com

How do I initiate a claim?

Call your crop insurance agent and follow up in writing (keep a copy for your records). Your crop insurance company will arrange for a loss adjuster to inspect your crop. It is your responsibility to call your crop insurance agent and initiate this process.

How do I know when to file a claim?

Any time you have crop damage that will adversely affect your yield, or the value of your crop, you may be eligible to file a claim. The loss adjuster will determine whether your yield falls below the yield guarantee stated in your crop insurance policy. This applies to revenue guarantee policies as well as to traditional yield protection policies.

Most policies state that you (the insured) should notify your agent within 72 hours of discovery of crop damage. As a practical matter, you should always contact your agent immediately when you discover crop damage.

In some cases, you may discover a loss while you are harvesting (a row crop for instance). Stop harvesting and contact your agent right away.

In the event of losses, you must file notice immediately *after* each unit is harvested (within 15 days) and before the end of the insurance period. For sweet corn and corn cut for silage, you must file notice at least 15 days *before* harvest begins.

How soon should I expect an adjuster?

In practice, there are different levels of urgency for crop inspectors. If you are still within the window of opportunity to replant your crop, or switch to another crop, contact your crop insurance agent immediately.

The insurance company should make every effort to get an adjuster out right away. If, later in the growing season, your crop is wiped out by a hurricane, for example, or if a severe drought has damaged your crop, you still need to contact your agent — but the urgency for an inspection depends on your intentions. If you want to destroy the crop (perhaps to plant a cover crop), then an adjuster needs to come out first —

before you do anything. If, on the other hand, you intend to continue to care for the crop and harvest what you can, there is less urgency for the adjuster to make the inspection immediately. Even so, an assessment of damage should be done as soon as practical.

While you wait for the adjuster, remember these rules: Do not destroy any of your crop. Do not disk. Do not plow. Do not replant. Do nothing to destroy your crop until you have permission from a claims adjuster or an insurance company representative.

Remember: Don't destroy the evidence.

What should I expect from the adjuster?

The adjuster should contact you to schedule an inspection. He or she will expect and welcome your presence and help during the inspection. The adjuster will be interested in what you have to say.

You can expect the adjuster to be familiar with your policy and to explain your options.

You should have your Farm Service Agency (FSA) documents ready to show the number of acres and locations of your insured crops. The adjuster should have copies of your crop insurance policy documents and your Actual Production History (APH).

How is my crop yield calculated?

For some crops, counting plants within a sample area at various locations in the field is a part of the process. For other crops, determining the weight of ears of corn per bucket or numbers of soybeans in a beaker is part of the process. Adjusters may take pictures of your fields. They may check with your neighbors on the condition of their crops and they may check with the local elevator operator for average yields in the area. They may even consult local weather data.

Calculating crop yield is not guesswork. It is a disciplined process. Your adjuster has extensive classroom and field training and is constantly studying to maintain his or her certification.

Your responsibilities

Report crop damage promptly:

- Before replanting (many policies have replanting payments),

- Within 72 hours of discovery of damage,
- 15 days before harvest begins (if loss is possible),
- Within 15 days after harvesting is completed (by insurance unit) or the end of the insurance period.

Caution: Do not destroy evidence that is needed to support your claim without clear direction from the insurance company, preferably in writing.

For more information:

Contact a crop insurance agent. To find an agent, visit our online locator at:

<http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents/> .



Announcements

2018 Delaware Cooperative Extension Horticulture Short Courses

[Register for these courses online.](#)

Pest and Beneficial Insect Walk

\$15, 2 Pest., 1 CNP, 2 ISA credits

Wednesday, June 6, 4-6 pm

Sussex County Extension Office

16483 County Seat Highway, Georgetown

or

Wednesday, June 20, 4-6 pm

University of Delaware Botanic Gardens

531 S College Avenue, Newark, Meet at the entrance to Fischer Greenhouse.

Learn to identify insect and disease pests, as well as beneficial insects in the landscape at either the Sussex County Extension Office or the University of Delaware

Botanic Gardens. **Instructors:** Nancy Gregory, Brian Kunkel, Carrie Murphy, and Tracy Wootten

2018 UD Weed Science Field Day

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

University of Delaware

Carvel Research and Education Center

16483 County Seat Hwy, Georgetown, DE

The 2018 Weed Science Field Day will be held the morning of Wednesday, June 20 at the University of Delaware Research and Education Center, Georgetown, DE. More details will be available at a later date.

2018 Farmers' Field Day At LESREC

Wednesday, June 27, 2018 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

University of Maryland

Lower Eastern Shore Research & Education Center (LESREC)

27664 Nanticoke Road, Salisbury, MD 21801

Calling all Farmers/Growers to Your Field Day at LESREC

Topics

- IR-4 Program
- Nutrient Management & Soil Health
- Ag Law and Conserve (Possible Nutrient Mgmt. Credits)
- Plant Pathology Information
- Variety Studies
- Weed Management
- Poultry Information
- Diagnostic Information
- Bee / Pollen Research
- Wagon Tours

Lunch will be provided

REGISTER AT: <https://2018-farmers-field-day-at-lesrec.eventbrite.com>

More Information to Follow. Check out Events at <https://extension.umd.edu/lesrec>

The University of Maryland is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Equal Access Programs

Marl Pit Tailgate Session

Tuesday, June 5, 2018 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

UD Cooperative Extension Research Demonstration
Area

¾ Mile east of Armstrong Corner, on Marl Pit Rd. –
Road 429, Middletown

Join your fellow producers and the UD Extension team for a discussion of this year's demonstration trials and current production issues. Other topics will include nutrient management, pest management and weed management.

Bring a tailgate or a lawn chair

We will wrap up with the traditional ice cream treat.

Credits:

Nutrient Management: 1.0, Pesticide: 1.0

The meeting is free and everyone interested in attending is welcome. If you have special needs in accessing this program, please call the office two weeks in advance.

To register or request more information, please call our office at (302)831-2506. Please register by Tuesday, May 29.

AGENDA

6:00-6:05

Welcome and Introductions

Dan Severson, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension

6:05-6:10

Overview of Small Grains Variety Trials at Marl Pit

Victor Green, University of Delaware Extension

6:10-6:30

Weed Update

Mark VanGessel, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension Weed Specialist

Discussion of early-season weed management issues. We will talk about what we have seen and been asked about in the spring of 2018. We will explain and discuss our cover crop demonstration plots at the Marl Pit site as well.

6:30-6:50

2018 Insect Pest Outlook

David Owens, University of Delaware Extension Entomologist

Perennial insect pests that need to be anticipated will be discussed along with management implications of current insect pest populations.”

6:50-7:10

Nutrient Management Update

Amy Shober, University of Delaware Extension Nutrient Management Specialist

7:10-7:30 Agronomic Crop Insect Management Update

Bill Cissell, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension

This talk will address current pest management concerns, focusing on cereal leaf beetle management in small grains and pest management issues with cover crops.

7:30-7:50

Using NDVI to Measure Wheat Populations and Spring Nitrogen Needs

Jarrod Miller, University of Delaware Extension Agronomy Specialist

UAVs can be used to scout crops as well as obtain NDVI measurements of crop health and biomass. Research on winter wheat was performed to determine whether NDVI imagery could detect wheat population, tiller counts, and nitrogen needs.

7:50-8:00

Conclusion and Evaluations

Dan Severson, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension

Weather Summary

Carvel Research and Education Center Georgetown, DE

Week of May 3 to May 9, 2018

Readings Taken from Midnight to Midnight

Rainfall:

0.01 inch: May 5

0.01 inch: May 6

Air Temperature:

Highs ranged from 87°F on May 3 and May 4 to 68°F on May 6.

Lows ranged from 67°F on May 4 to 48°F on May 8

Soil Temperature:

63.8°F average

Additional Delaware weather data is available at
http://www.deos.udel.edu/monthly_retrieval.html
and
<http://www.rec.udel.edu/TopLevel/Weather.htm>

*Weekly Crop Update is compiled and edited by
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Crops*

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