WEEKLY CROP UPDATE
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Volume 28, Issue 21 **August 7, 2020**

Vegetable Crops

Vegetable Crop Insect Scouting – *David Owens, Extension Entomologist,* owensd@udel.edu

Sweet Corn

Fall armyworm is active, be sure to scout tassel-push corn. If more than 15% of tassel-pushing whorls are infested by worms, a treatment is advised. Corn earworm trap counts are up a bit in most places, with the last holdout for low counts being in central Sussex. Trap catches from Thursday are as follows:

Trap Location	BLT – CEW	Pheromone CEW
	3 nights total catch	
Dover	1	147
Harrington	0	71
Milford	1	101
Rising Sun	0	117
Wyoming	0	63
Bridgeville	1	96
Concord	2	27
Georgetown	0	25
Greenwood	0	
Laurel	2	91
Seaford	1	89
Lewes	---	192
Millsboro	4	11

Cucurbits

Be on the lookout for aphids and signs of worm feeding. I sprayed a small plot with pyrethroids earlier this year to prevent squash vine borer from destroying my pumpkin pies only to have a large aphid outbreak 3 weeks later. You will see cast skins, even on the top of leaves. New, infested leaves will have a bit of a curl or cup to them. Spider mite reproduction is going to be slowed by recent rains, but keep an eye on them. Beneficial fungal pathogens have a much harder time establishing in vegetables than in field crops.

Peppers

Continue scouting for beet armyworm. In areas with high earworm trap counts, some suggest 20 or more per night, regular treatments may be necessary.

Tomato

Once tomatoes have small fruit on them, regular treatments for earworm may be necessary. Also scout for spider mites. If you see 2-4 mites per upper leaflet, a treatment may be advised.

Fruit Cracking in Tomato– *Gordon Johnson, Extension Vegetable & Fruit Specialist;* gcjohn@udel.edu

Heavy rain from Tropical Storm Isaias has resulted in increased fruit cracking in field tomatoes causing extensive losses of marketable fruit.

Cracks in the skin of tomato fruit that expose the internal fruit tissue can appear in several forms.

Radial cracks start at the stem end and extend lengthwise down the fruit. Deep radial cracks render fruit unmarketable and increase the likelihood of fruit rot. In cherry tomatoes the split can go the length of the fruit.

Concentric cracks circle the tomato around the shoulder of the fruit.

Irregular cracks can also appear starting at the fruit shoulder.

Rain checking appears as small cracks arranged concentrically across the shoulders of fruits

In severe cases you can see multiple types of cracking on the same fruit.

Tomato cracking occurs when the skin of the fruit does not expand at the same rate as the fruit interior. Cracking is most common after heavy rain events, but can also occur with irregular irrigation.

Fruit cracking is most prevalent when there is a rapid uptake of water into fruit during ripening when the fruit is accumulating solids. The combined pressure of accumulated water and solutes can split fruits in tomato varieties with low skin elasticity. In addition, during heavy rain events, water can enter the fruit at the stem scar or through minute cracks in the skin shoulder, again causing extra pressure and larger cracks.

Elevated fruit temperatures, often caused by loss of leaf cover, can increase the susceptibility of fruit to cracking as can exposure to high light levels. High humidity around fruit can also increase cracking.

Varieties that are most susceptible to cracking have low skin elasticity during ripening and skin/underlying skin tissue that is thin. Larger fruits tend to be most susceptible; however, many cherry tomatoes are also prone to cracking.

Management of tomato skin cracking starts with selecting crack resistant varieties. Maintain even soil moisture to avoid sudden influx of water into the fruit (but do not over-irrigate). Maintain good fruit cover to keep fruits from overheating and manage fruit load by not over-pruning.

High tunnels and rain shelters are good tools to reduce fruit cracking by controlling plant wetness and soil moisture.

Storm Damaged Vegetables– *Gordon Johnson, Extension Vegetable & Fruit Specialist;* gcjohn@udel.edu

Many vegetable fields on Delmarva have been impacted by heavy winds from Tropical Storm Isaias. Wind gusts of over 80 mph were recorded near Hurlock, MD. Damage to vegetable crops by severe wind includes plant defoliation, leaf tearing and shredding, stem lodging, stem breakage, loss of flowers and small fruit, and fruit bruising and wounding.

Effects of storm damage on vegetable crops and recovery of crops will depend on a number of factors including the type of vegetable, stage of growth, weather conditions immediately after storms, and prevalence of disease organisms. Continued hot, wet conditions after storm events pose the most risk by increasing disease incidence, particularly bacterial diseases.

Defoliation reduces leaf area and plants will need to grow new leaves from buds for vegetables such as vine crops where this is possible. It will take several weeks to replace the leaf area lost. This will cause delays in maturity. If crops are more advanced, loss of leaf area can reduce fruit or tuber/root quality because of reduced sugar production, however size may or may not be affected. Leaf area recovery (growing new leaves) will be aided by additional nitrogen applications after the storm event.

Stem breakage or injury can lead to major losses in some fruiting crops such as peppers by loss of fruiting area as well as increased sunburn as plants are opened up. Many vining crops will recover significantly from stem breakage by producing new branches, although production will be delayed and there will be potential for increased sunburn until leaf cover is restored. Losses of flowers or small fruit may limit yield

potential and delay crop harvest in many vegetable crops.

Green snap in sweet corn is when the corn plant snaps off under the pressure of the wind. Sweet corn is most vulnerable to green snap during the rapid elongation stage (V8 – tasseling). Conditions favorable for rapid growth, good moisture and heat increase the risk of stalks breakage. If the stalk breaks near the ground, no ear will be produced. Some sweet corn varieties are susceptible to root lodging where the stalk is bent over by the wind. This corn will start to grow upright again giving it a U appearance. Harvest will be difficult in lodged sweet corn.

Of immediate concern after storms will be bacterial diseases on susceptible crops. Bacterial diseases have been shown to be more severe after storm damage as they can readily enter through wounds. Including copper products in spray programs after storm injury is recommended to limit bacterial diseases. There has been some recommendation to use peroxide based fungicide products after storm events. These products kill what they contact and have no residual. There may be some reduction in the numbers of disease organisms on plant surfaces; however, there is little research to show major benefits after storm damage.

General recommendations for storm damaged vegetables are to first evaluate the extent of the damage. Crop insurance adjusters are trained to evaluate storm damage in many crops and should be contacted immediately for insured vegetable crops. Consider applying additional nitrogen to encourage new growth where appropriate. Apply additional fungicides and include copper compounds where bacterial diseases are of concern.

Bacterial Spot, Thrips and Mites; Problem Pests Now in Tomatoes

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

Last week several fields were found with one or more of the big 3 for mid-summer pests in tomato. These disease and insect pests do well in hot weather, although two spotted spider mites (*Tetranychus urticae*) and thrips (*Frankliniella* spp) do best in hot dry weather and bacterial spot (*Xanthomonas* spp) likes it wetter.

Bacterial spot in tomatoes and peppers is a tough one to manage and it seems to be more difficult to do so in the last several years. One of the possible reasons is that copper is not working as well as it once did because of the development of resistance. Combining copper with mancozeb has helped, but in hot rainy weather it is still difficult to slow its spread. It has been my observation over the years that the copper-fungicide combination seems to protect the fruit fairly well (but not always) from becoming infected with bacterial spot or speck. So even if the foliage is infected by the bacteria much of the fruit is usually OK, although the bacteria will infect the pedicel and flower, which can cause flower abortion (Fig. 1). The big problem is the infected foliage eventually dies and the plant has exposed fruit (Fig. 2) that at first is not a problem but as the season moves on the exposed fruit becomes sunburned and unmarketable (Fig. 3). Actigard is a plant activator and when used preventively with copper-fungicide treatments has done a very good job of reducing bacterial spot and speck problems in tomato fields.

Figure 1. Bacterial spot lesions on stems and pedicels of tomato.

Figure 2. Bacterial spot infected tomato plants with exposed fruit in foreground row and little to no bacterial spot problems in background rows of tomatoes.

Figure 3. In mid-August plants defoliated because of bacterial spot allow fruit to become sunburned.

With thrips, the difficulty is getting the chemical controls to the pest on the underside of a leaf on plants with heavy foliage. Thrips feeding damage appears as small white dots or stipples scattered on a leaf often with tiny black specks around these feeding scars which is thrips feces (Fig. 4). Radiant insecticide would be good to try first if it has not been used much before in the field, if it has a different chemistry such as Torac or Harvanta should offer better control (each has a 1-day PHI and a 4-12 hr REI). Growers also report success with controlling thrips using combination products that use a pyrethroid and a neonicotinoid such as Endigo, Brigadier or Leverage, etc. However, growers need to be sure to use high gallonages (50-90 gal/a) and pressures (150-200 psi) and if possible hollow cone nozzles to get the insecticide into the tomato's dense canopy and to the underside of leaves.

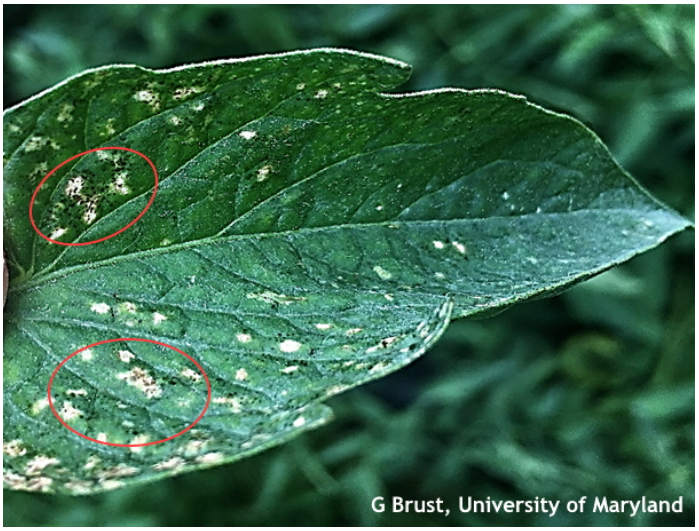

Figure 4. Thrips feeding damage and black specks-thrips feces.

Two spotted spider mites do damage that looks similar to thrips, but they do not produce black flecks where they have scarred the leaf tissue (Fig. 5). Mites become very difficult to control if you see webbing on the underside or top of an infested leaf (Fig. 6). This is because the webbing reduces the mites exposure to any miticides. There are several miticides that work well, provided the material gets to the mites, such as Agri-Mek, Portal, Oberon or Acramite.

Figure 5. Two spotted spider mite feeding damage to tomato foliage.

Figure 6. Tomato leaf with two spotted spider mite silken webbing on underside of leaf.

Agronomic Crops

Agronomic Crop Insect Scouting – *David Owens, Extension Entomologist,* owensd@udel.edu

Soybean
There have been recent reports of fungal infected spider mites, and with recent storm events, I wouldn't be surprised if spider mite populations in field crops crashed in the next week or so. Dead mites are going to appear brown and fuzzy. Now that soybean is entering reproductive stages, defoliation thresholds decrease to 15 – 20% new defoliation with defoliators present. Begin scouting for corn earworm, among other pod-damaging insects like stink bug and bean leaf beetle. Corn earworm moths are particularly attracted to flowering, drought stressed, open canopy soybean fields. Pyrethroids have in recent years been inconsistent in efficacy. Last year some trials resulted in good efficacy while others resulted in poor. There is an excellent threshold calculator for determining whether or not to treat, based upon sampling method, cost of an application (product + application), value of soybean, and row spacing: https://www.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/CEW-calculator-v0.006.html.

Sorghum
Now is the time to be checking for earworms in heads. The best sampling method is the beat bucket. Shake sorghum heads hard into a 2.5 to 5-gallon bucket and count caterpillars. Open headed sorghum varieties tend to sustain less damage than closed-headed types. In general, pyrethroids offer only 50 – 75% control. If a pyrethroid is used, use the highest label rate, and do not target anything larger than a medium sized worm. A good threshold calculator for earworm can be found here: https://extensionentomology.tamu.edu/sorghum-headworm-calculator/. Sorghum webworm is present in low numbers; thresholds are approximately double those of the other headworms.

Also be sure to flip a few leaves over to check for white sugarcane aphid. Last year we found our first around August 8. This is definitely not a critter to miss. By September, their populations were astronomical. More information can be found here: https://www.udel.edu/content/dam/udelImages/canr/pdfs/extension/sustainable-agriculture/pest-management/InsectControlinSorghum-2020-updated.pdf

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Field Crops Diseases Update – *Alyssa Koehler, Extension Field Crops Pathologist*; akoehler@udel.edu

Field Corn
Grey leaf spot (GLS) has remained the primary disease showing up in corn. If GLS lesions move into corn that is already past R3, yield potential should not be significantly influenced. If you have corn that is at VT/R1 and over 50% of plants have lesions on the second leaf below the ear leaf or higher, a fungicide may be considered, depending on the expected yield potential of the field.

Soybean
Over the past week, downy mildew has been present in soybeans. Downy mildew appears as pale-green to light yellow spots that can turn brown to dark brown as they mature (Figure 1). If you flip the leaf over, the underside is covered

with tufts of pale to grey sporangiophores (Figure 2). Under the microscope, these sporangiophores are branched and spores called sporangia are visible (Figure 3). This disease does not typically influence yield. Continue to monitor the weather and scout for foliar diseases like frogeye leaf spot through R6 if you are considering a fungicide application. If disease pressure is low or plants are beyond R5, a fungicide application may not be economical.

Figure 1. Pale yellow lesions of Downy Mildew on Soybean

Figure 2. Underside of a soybean leaf with Downy Mildew

Figure 3. Sporangiophores and sporangia of *Peronospora manshurica,* causal agent of soybean downy mildew

A great new Disease Severity and Defoliation Training tool is available from the Crop Protection Network https://severity.cropprotectionnetwork.org/. This tool has features to practice rating foliar diseases and insect defoliation of soybean and corn as well as ear rot of corn. Ten question quizzes allow you to train your eyes for more accurate ratings (Figure 4).

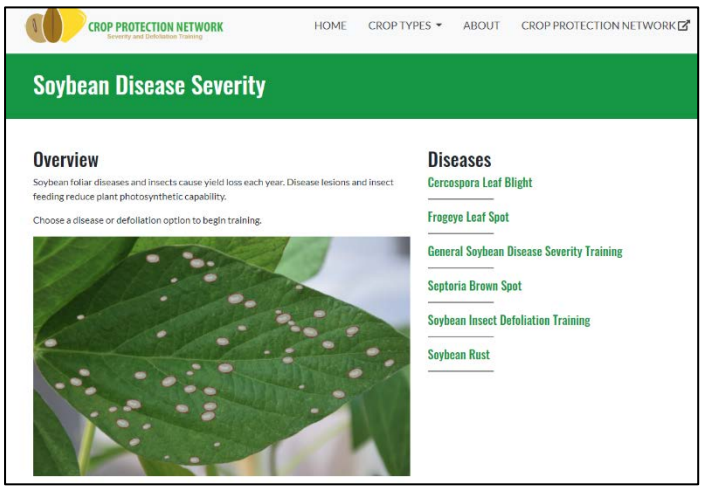

Figure 4. Screenshot from the Crop Protection Network Disease Severity and Defoliation Training tool for soybeans

General

Guess the Pest! Week 18 Answer: Corn Rootworm– *David Owens, Extension Entomologist*, owensd@udel.edu

Congratulations to Bob Leiby for correctly guessing Corn Rootworm. This is a critter that I do not often see; they tend not to like sandy soil. However, there are areas in the state, particularly New Castle and western Kent Co. with heavier ground. Where corn is not rotated, they can build up to large numbers. Looking at such fields now for adult rootworm will inform pest management decision making for next year.

Wind damage is another close guess, especially now that we have had two tropical storms blow through. My sweet corn spray trial took a real beating the day before the first application was supposed to go out. The difference is that the field where the picture was taken hasn't been rotated and had anywhere from 2 to 10 corn rootworm adults per plant.

Guess the Pest! Week 19 – *David Owens, Extension Entomologist*, owensd@udel.edu

August is worm month! While looking for corn earworm, an unusual critter showed up in a recently herbicided soybean field. Who is this?

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfUPYLZnTRsol46hXmgqj8fvt5f8-JI0eEUHb3QJaNDLG_4kg/viewform?c=0&w=1

It's Not Too Late to Consider Next Year's Weed Management – *Mark VanGessel, Extension Weed Specialist*; mjv@udel.edu

When you consider weed control, do you immediately consider herbicides and nothing else? That is common given we have come to rely upon crops that can be sprayed with broad-spectrum herbicides. We have become accustomed to spraying many of those herbicides when it fits our schedule. In addition, since they are very safe to the crop and relatively inexpensive, we know we can spray a second time if necessary.

Unfortunately, for many farms, those days are gone. Due to glyphosate-resistance, additional or alternative herbicides are needed and they are not as effective as glyphosate once was. On the other hand, if you do not have resistant weeds and you want to continue to rely on glyphosate, you need to incorporate multiple non-chemical tactics to reduce the risk of developing herbicide-resistance. Either way, now is the time to plan for next year.

Are you pulling AND removing from the field those Palmer amaranth or common ragweed plants that survived and are in the process of forming viable seeds. If you have too many, are you making plans to harvest those fields in a manner to minimize the spread within the field and to thoroughly clean your combine before you leave that field. If you have fields heavily infested, are you planning to plant corn or sorghum in those fields instead of soybeans? Corn is planted earlier and Palmer amaranth is not growing as quickly, providing a longer period of time to control them. Atrazine is an option for both of these crops and currently it provides excellent control of both Palmer amaranth and common ragweed.

Are you mowing the field edges to limit weeds in those areas from producing seeds and minimize the chance that they spread into your field? Have you been making notes of where the perennial weeds are located? Fall is the best time to treatment most perennial weeds in this region. Glyphosate will control most perennial weeds and you want the weeds actively growing at time of application. So harvesting with the combine header high will minimize damage to the weed and allow it to recover faster. Likewise, you do not want to disturb those weeds for 10 to 14 days after application. Glyphosate needs time to translocate throughout the weed's root system to provide maximum level of control. So, delay mowing or field work after application; as well as spray early to avoid frost. A fall application in one year is seldom enough to eliminate a perennial weed patch, but two to three years of consistent effort will have a dramatic reduction of number and size of plants in the patch.

Do you have fields (or portions of fields) with severe weed infestations? Does strategic tillage

fit into your plans? Strategic tillage is moldboard plowing to bury the weed seeds deep into the soil to reduce the number of plants emerging next spring. Strategic tillage requires the field not be moldboard plowed for at least 4 to 5 years to allow those weed seeds to decay deep in the soil and not brought back to the soil surface. Strategic tillage in the fall with a cover crop planted immediately afterwards minimizes negative impacts on the soil.

Have you arranged for planting a cover crop? Cover crops have many benefits and weed management is one of them. If horseweed is a problem then be sure to use a grass cover crop (cereal rye, small grain, triticale) or early-planted forage radish. Legumes do not produce enough biomass to help suppress fall-emerging horseweed. While a cover crop will reduce the number of horseweed plants and suppress their growth, they will not eliminate it. Therefore, when balancing delayed cover crop termination and needing to control horseweed, you may need to have an Enlist or Xtend soybean variety.

If Palmer amaranth or common ragweed are giving you fits, then plan on terminating your cover crop as close to planting as possible in order to provide the most benefit. An additional one to two weeks of growth in the spring can have significant impact on amount of biomass produced. Is your planter set up to handle larger amounts of biomass or do you need to consider some adjustments now and allow for shop time this winter working on your planter. Before you order and plant your cover crop, how are you going to terminate it? Grass cover crops generally are susceptible to glyphosate. However, annual ryegrass can be difficult to kill with glyphosate in the spring and I do not recommend using annual ryegrass as a cover crop. If you are planting a legume or a brassica, glyphosate alone may not kill them so can you use 2,4-D or dicamba and/or paraquat plus a triazine (like atrazine or metribuzin)? Do you need to make any modifications to your sprayer to terminate taller cover crops?

What herbicides did you use this season? It is critical that you know what herbicide groups you used this year and be sure that you rotate to different, **effective and multiple** sites of action to manage herbicide-resistance. Be sure you have a good herbicide rotation over 2 to 3 years so you are not overusing any herbicide sites of action.

Are you selecting varieties and hybrids based on your field conditions? If using cover crops and terminating them late, be sure to select for good seedling vigor. The soil temperature is likely to be a few degrees cooler and seed selection should account for that.

This is not an exhaustive list of things to consider for next year's weed management program, but some steps taken now can have big dividends next year and beyond. It is not too early to start planning and improving your weed management for next year.

Farm Succession Planning – A Process Worth 100 Acres or More…, Part 2

– *Laurie Wolinski, Extension Agent,* lgw@udel.edu; *Dan Severson, New Castle Co. Ag Agent*, severson@udel.edu and *Maria Pippidis, Extension Educator Family & Consumer Sciences,* pippidis@udel.edu

Last week's message was on the topic of communication. Communication is an important preliminary step in the succession planning process. With hope your family was able to put a couple of check marks on the Succession Planning Checklist. Just opening the lines of communication is a very big step.

The next step of collecting and analyzing information is a task that each family member should participate in. First, in order for all family members to be on the same page, each person must be informed about what a succession plan is - and what it is not. This might be as simple as doing an Internet search and finding short articles to read or even better, attend an Extension session on succession planning (Thursday evenings in August). Many Extension websites have documents to download as well as links to presentations or upcoming seminars on this very topic. It is not unusual for farm families to attend multiple succession planning workshops because of the nature of the topic and the time involved. Additional tasks involved with this step include locating and

sharing a lot of important documents, for example financial statements, wills, insurance papers, tax returns, estate plans, farm deed, retirement savings, etc… Finally, when all the documents are shared, the family can begin to analyze the current situation of the farm.

Continuing with the example from last week: Mom and Dad have disclosed that they'd like to see the farm continue after they retire. They believe that in 10 years, they will be financially set to retire. After several weeks of group text chats, the family learned that Son 1, who currently works full-time on the farm and is married with twin girls, would very much like to be the successor. Son 2 who is also married would like to add an enterprise to the farm. He and his wife (also an ag teacher) have aspirations of using the farm as an outdoor classroom and agritourism operation. Son 3, age 25, is content with his industry job but had always thought he'd go back to the farm after gaining some experience off the farm.

The documents that were shared include the parents/farm tax returns for the past 5 years, income statements, balance sheets and cash flow statements for the same period. The current business plan was shared, too. The parents also shared their retirement plan and the financial goal that they hope to achieve within the next 10 years. The parents do have a will that states among other things, that their assets upon their death are to be equally divided among the three sons.

These are just a few of the many documents that will need to be shared in order to continue the succession planning process. This will likely take several days to gather all the documents. Once they are gathered and reviewed, it makes sense to reflect on what has been shared. Hasty decision making should be avoided. This is yet another reason to begin the succession planning process. Please review page 5 of Farm Succession Planning Checklist for a more detailed list of the documents that will aid you in preparing to analyze financial viability and profitability of your farms business. Is your farm profitable? How profitable? Does the farm have enough income to support another family?

Keep the communication going throughout. As mentioned above, it will take some time to gather all the documents. By gathering all these documents and sharing them with the all the parties involved, there is a level and trust and transparency established that can go a long way.

Announcements

Succession Planning Workshops: Investing in Your Farm's Future

Thursdays, August 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Online

Each year, the average age of principal farm operators continues to get just a little bit older. Many of these principal operators may not have developed a retirement plan, considered how to handle health care issues as they age, developed a succession plan, or even developed an estate plan. Join specialists from the University of Delaware Extension and the University of Maryland Extension as they help prepare you for this process.

A four-part series for farm families planning for the next generation.

Session 1: Introduction of the topics and retirement planning.

Session 2: Health insurance in later years.

Session 3: Business planning and communications.

Session 4: Legal topics, planning tools, and finding the right team.

More information and registration is available here: https://go.umd.edu/5Qv

Renovating Pastures Webinar

Wednesday, August 26, 2020 7:00 pm
Online

Join Dr. Amanda Grev, Ph.D. - University of Maryland Forage Specialist for another program in our Webinar Wednesday forage series. Is your pasture in need of some renovation? How do you know if, when, or how to renovate? This webinar will cover the basics of pasture renovation, including an overview of some different types of renovation, steps you can take to

determine if renovation is needed, and a step by step guide for the renovation process.

To register: https://www.pcsreg.com/renovating-pastures

Sponsored by Delaware Cooperative Extension, a joint effort between Delaware State University and the University of Delaware.

Extension302 Podcast

To listen, go to:

https://www.udel.edu/academics/colleges/canr/cooperative-extension/about/podcast/

USDA-FSA Office Visits by Appointment

USDA-Farm Service Agency offices in Delaware are open for in-office visits by appointment only. Please call your local office to make an appointment:

New Castle and Kent Counties – 302-741-2600, ext. 2

Sussex County – 302-856-3990, ext. 2

Stormwater Workshop Series Webinar

Thursday, August 13 10:00 a.m.-noon
Online

The public is invited to attend this free stormwater webinar. Topics covered include stormwater emergency preparedness, algae control, and invasive species identification and control.

"We encourage communities and property owners to become informed so they can identify problems early, before they become costly to repair," says Jessica Watson, sediment and stormwater program manager at SCD.

"If you are new to Delaware, we want you to learn how your actions on private land, at home and in community open space affects water quality for all in Sussex County," says Tracy Wootten, horticulture agent at UDCE.

Delaware nutrient management and pesticide applicator credits are pending.

An additional workshop has been scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 8, 2020.

Registered attendees will receive the webinar link one day prior to the event.

To register got to: https://www.sussexconservation.org/events/ssw-workshop-4.html

This event is presented by the Sussex Conservation District (SCD), University of Delaware Cooperative Extension (UDCE) and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control.

Soil Health Solutions

Monday, August 17, 1-4 PM
Online via Zoom

Please join us for an interactive webinar to address soil health challenges on all types of farms. Shannon Zezula, Indiana State Resource Conservationist will present about the process of finding soil health solutions based on individual farming situations. Participants will also have discussions about specific farming scenarios and find ways to improve soil health and productivity.

Please contact Jason Challandes at jchallandes@desu.edu or 302-388-2241 to register and you will receive a link to join.

Presented by Northeast SARE, Delaware Soil Health Partnership, Delaware State University and University of Delaware

Farmer Panelists Discuss Soil Health – Virtually

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 12:30-1:30 p.m.

A virtual farmer panel will discuss a soil health with Steve Groff, owner of Cover Crop Coaching, as moderator. Panelists include Blaine Hitchens, a Sussex County farmer and National Association of Conservation District Soil Health Champion from Laurel, Del., Steve Kraszewski, of Mason's Heritage in Queen Anne, Md. and Aaron Thompson, Thompson Family Farm in Hartly, Del. This event is free and preregistration is required.

"Due to COVID-19 we were unable to hold the annual soil health field day. However, we are very excited to offer this virtual event to allow farmers the opportunity to discuss topics related to soil health," said Debbie Absher, director of agricultural programs at Sussex Conservation District.

Registered attendees will receive the webinar registration link one day prior to the event.

For more information or to register, visit www.sussexconservation.org/events or call Siobhan Kelley, communications and outreach specialist at SCD, 302-856-2105, ext. 122.

This event is presented by the Sussex Conservation District, Delaware Soil Health Partnership, Delaware State University, Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Weather Summary

Carvel Research and Education Center Georgetown, DE

Week of July 30 to August 5, 2020

Rainfall:

0.06 inch: July 30
0.55 inch: July 31
0.08 inch: August 3
0.71 inch: August 4

Air Temperature:

Highs ranged from 92°F on July 30 to 78°F on July 31.

Lows ranged from 75°F on August 3 to 71°F on July 30.

Soil Temperature:

83.0°F average

Additional Delaware weather data is available at http://www.deos.udel.edu/data/

Weekly Crop Update is compiled and edited by Emmalea Ernest, Associate Scientist – Vegetable Crops. Aisha Hoggard assists with web posting.