

On The Radar



August 25th , 2023

Status by Crop

Corn: R3 (milk) – R5 (dent)

Soybeans: R4 (full pod) - R6 (early full seed)

Potato: Late Tuber Bulking; Senescence – Harvested

Cabbage: 8" heads - early planted are harvest ready

Carrots: 100% canopy; Largest dicers 3"x13" and Largest Slicers 1.5"x14"

Blacklight Traps

Hancock, WI:

7 day interval – 1 Dingy cutworm
1 Western Bean cutworm

Grand Marsh, WI:

7 day interval – 19 Dingy cutworms
8 Western Bean cutworms



Corn Tar Spot

- We found tar spot this week in 3 different counties
- Light incidence, but low disease severity
- Severity is lower compared to past years due to dry conditions that haven't been ideal for tar spot infection



Waushara County



Marquette County



Richland County

Corn Corn Silk Flies

- This week was the first time we have found what we believe to be corn silk flies
- Plant damage is caused by the larval stage
- Larvae feed on silks, cob, kernels, and damaged leaves and tassels within the whorls
- They prefer sweet corn ears, but seed and silage corn are also vulnerable to attack



Soybeans Grasshoppers

More grasshopper feeding found in fields this week – feeding normally of economic concern when the pods are fed on.

Grasshopper populations normally move in from field edges, so observing the degree of feeding along edges is typical for field's grasshopper pressure assessment.



Grasshopper damage on soybean pod. Photo: Kelly Estes, Illinois Natural History Survey

Potatoes

- Most potato growers will have awesome yields this season, being 10-20% higher than normal
- This can be attributed to:
 - A lot of sunshine this growing season
 - No long heavy rains that leached nutrients
 - Low early blight pressure
 - No late blight found



Carrots

Harvest

- Carrot harvest is scheduled to start the week of Labor Day.
- It will be a slow start, only harvesting a few truck loads worth a day, then will really pick up the 1st week of October.
- Carrot harvest will continue essentially until the ground is too frozen to pull them up. Because carrots are harvested by pulling, the tops need to remain as healthy as possible.
- Fungicides will continue into September and if needed, a late nitrogen application will be applied if the canopy begins to weaken.



Carrots Deer Damage

Keep an eye out for deer in the carrot fields!

Deer can cause heavy damage in carrot fields as they dig to feed on the carrot roots. If you have any plans for a food plot for deer, consider planting some carrots!



Cabbage Harvest

- Largest heads have 16" diameter and top the scales at 30lbs.
- Harvest is starting this week on early cabbage varieties and will continue into October for the longer season varieties.



Cabbage White Mold

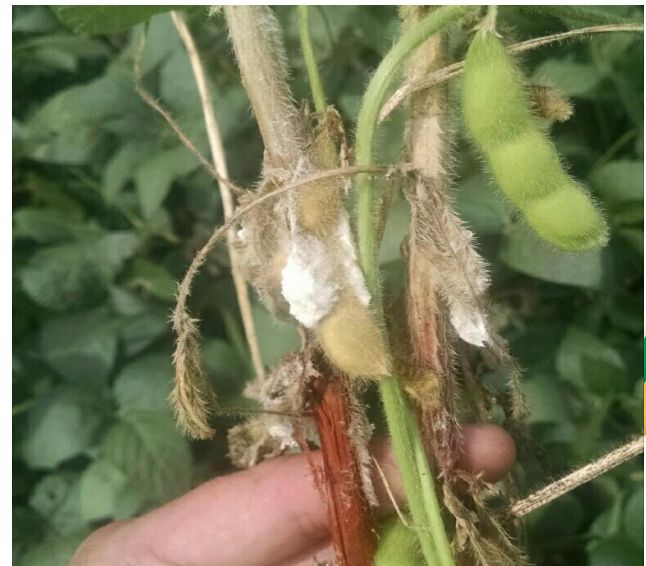
- The biggest problem facing cabbage right now is white mold.
- White mold can affect most of the crops grown in the area and prospers in warm, moist weather. The heat wave and high humidity we've experienced in the last few days has contributed to outbreaks of white mold in the cabbage fields.
- Chemical control can be helpful, but it is difficult to get complete coverage of the plants with a mechanical spray due to the density of the foliage.
- Also, the leaf contact with the soil surface allows white mold an easy access to infect the plants.
- Allowing the field to dry out completely between waterings can be effective in slowing the progress of the disease.
- Once white mold reached the head of the cabbage, it becomes unmarketable.



Many Crops White Mold



- We have seen an increase in white mold across various crops over the last few weeks.
- Crops include soybeans, green beans, cabbage, and potatoes



Pumpkins Phytophthora



- We have started to see Phytophthora in pumpkins over the last few weeks.
- The pathogen, *Phytophthora capsici*, causes seedling damping-off, leaf spots, foliar blight, root and crown rot, stem lesions, and fruit rot.
- Phytophthora fruit rot typically starts on the underside of the fruit that is in contact with the ground. This makes it difficult to control with protectant fungicides. The white, yeast-like growth is mostly spores of *Phytophthora capsici* (sporangia). Seeing sporangia is diagnostic.
- Fruit can become completely affected and collapse.

Soil Fertility Sampling

Soil sampling at Pest Pros is picking up as more fields are getting harvested!



Last On The Radar for 2023!

- This will be the last On The Radar report for the 2023 growing season
- We hope everyone stays safe and has a great harvest season!