

# On The Radar



August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020

# Status by Crop

- Corn: R4-5 (dough – starting to dent)
- Soybeans: R6 stage (full pod filling )
- Potato
  - Early planted: vine-killing has begun
  - Later planted: reaching maturity
- Cabbage:
  - Transplants: harvest
  - Direct seed largest at 20lbs/head
- Carrots
  - Taproots 10" long with 2.5" diameters (dicers)
  - Taproots 13" long with 1.5" diameters (slicers)

# Corn – Tar Spot



Tar spot is more widespread across Wisconsin this season.

Favorable Conditions: 60-70 degrees Fahrenheit with high humidity (75%)

Distinguishing traits: pin head sized black lesions that become raised & can have a tan halo around them



# Soybeans - Aphids



# Potatoes

Many fields only have a couple of weeks remaining until vine-kill or are anticipated to be vine-killed in the couple weeks.

As fields are vine-killed, doing digs throughout the field to assess tuber skin set can help develop a harvest strategy for fields.





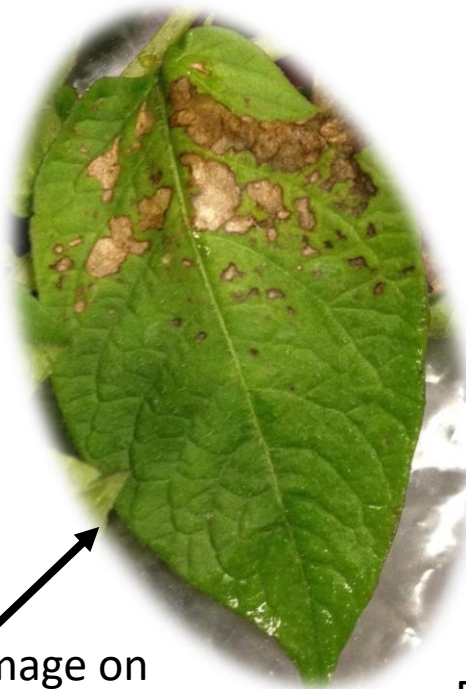
# Spider Mites

Dry conditions are favorable to spider mite infestation - a good rainfall is a good natural control of flushing off spider mites on the crop.

To check for spider mite presence on a suspected plant, lightly shaking plant canopy over a white sheet of paper & looking for black specks that will move is the best method, because of their small size.



Spider mite adult (right) & nymph (left) under a dissecting microscope view.



Damage on potato leaf.



Damage on soybean leaf.

# Carrots

On the look-out for bacterial soft rot & white mold as harvest approaches to help determine whether a field may need to be harvested sooner than the rest.



Bacterial infection



White mold infection  
on leaf stems



White mold infection on leaves

White mold affects the integrity of the carrot tops, making them difficult to harvest/ un-harvestable.



# Carrots – Bulking!



Current Largest  
Dicer Carrots



Carrot comparison to a 6'  
tall individual's leg.



Current Largest  
Slicer Carrots



# What is This???

Native to North American, white lined sphinx moth caterpillars can be an interesting find in Wisconsin since they can't survive our winters but will appear in WI as they migrate from southern states in the spring/summer.



White lined sphinx moth caterpillar.



<https://wimastergardener.org/article/white-lined-sphinx-moth-hyles-lineata/>

Typically if they are observed in a farm field, they are feeding on the weeds, particularly purslane, instead of the crop.

The sphinx moth is quite unique looking because of its large body, making them appear like a hummingbird until more closely observed.

A large, stylized rainbow arc with green and yellow bands curves across the top and bottom of the slide.

# Happy Harvest!