



MUCK CROPS RESEARCH STATION IPM 2010

This is the Muck Crops Research Station Report and IPM Information for Tuesday, Oct. 5, 2010

Most onions in the Holland Marsh have been harvested. It is important that onions are dried, and then cooled properly for storage to reduce the risk of bacterial rots, white rot and botrytis neck rot and to maintain quality.

Onions left in the field are the main sources of overwintering maggot and act as disease reservoirs. Thus, growers should make every effort to remove these culls to reduce problems for next season.

In carrots, carrot rust fly numbers are generally low in all areas and are not a concern especially if your carrots are 3 weeks or less from harvest.

Carrot leaf blights continue to develop, however with cold night temperatures, disease progress will be slowed down. Growers should pay attention to the days to harvest for pesticides they use as carrot harvesting is getting closer.

Growers should monitor your fields regularly for symptoms of Sclerotinia in between the rows underneath the lodged leaves. Infection in the field starts at the base of the leaf stalk, causing the petiole to turn brown and die. We have seen infected carrots at our station and carrot fields around the Holland Marsh. Foliar trimming of the carrot canopy can reduce Sclerotinia. Growers are encouraged to visit carrot trimming trial at our demonstration site at the corner of Jane and Wood coppers Lane.

For post harvest control of Sclerotinia, an emergency use registration for Scholar has been announced by PMRA. Scholar is only effective when applied to washed carrots. Harvesting carrots when the ground is cool and cooling the carrots as quickly as possible also reduces white rot from developing in storage.

Celery growers should check regularly your fields for late blight, which develops brownish-black leaf spots. We found early blight in celery plots at our research station. Bacterial leaf spot remains the main concern in celery around the Holland Marsh.

A total of 17.8 mm rain was accumulated between September 28 and October 4. The soil temperature at the Muck Crops Research Station at 5 and 10 cm depth is currently 11.2 and 12.1°C.

Aster leafhoppers are no longer a concern around the Marsh.

ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Call Michael or Mary Ruth McDonald at 905-775-3783

