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PLANT PEST Newsletter

MINNESOTA EXTENSION SERVICE

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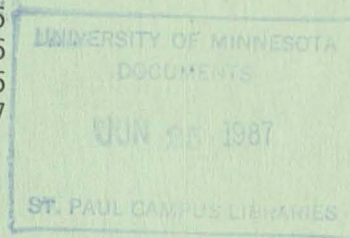
PPST18

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Extension Plant Pathology

SOYBEANS - POWDERY MILDEW -- Powdery mildew was found on August 21 in Hollandale. Powdery mildew has been seen as far north as Goodhue County. Incidence and severity are much less than last year.

Ward C. Stienstra
Extension Plant Pathologist

PESTICIDE NOTICE -- EPA has just released (8/28/86) a warning of risks to pregnant women from the application of Dinoseb. Common names of Dinoseb include: DNBP, DNOSBP, dinitro, dinoseb (7-150), sinox, vertac general and selective weed killer, Dinitrex, Dinitro-3, Dinitro General, Elgetol, Dynanap, and others.

"The U.S. EPA today warned that exposure of pregnant women to the pesticide Dinoseb during its application in the field may pose a risk of birth defects to their unborn children. Women of child-bearing age are cautioned to avoid exposure to Dinoseb during application. The agency believes that dietary exposure to Dinoseb is not of concern.

"Dinoseb is highly toxic to humans by exposure through the skin as well as inhalation and label directions require protective clothing for application. It is applied by ground equipment, airplane, or hand-held spray guns."

Care should also be taken in handling or laundering contaminated clothing.

Howard L. Bissonnette
Extension Plant Pathologist

DIAL U WEEKLY SUMMARY REPORT -- The following table highlights clinic contacts of special interest for the week of August 26-29, 1986.

| <u>HOST</u> | <u>DIAGNOSIS</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|
| Tomato | Septoria Leafspot |

Septoria leafspot has been severe in many areas, resulting in heavy defoliation and sunscald injury to the fruit. Plan a thorough garden cleanup this fall; remove and destroy all diseased plant debris. See AG-FS-1155.

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Shade Trees | Diseases |
|-------------|----------|

Fungal leafspot diseases continue to be our No. 1 disease problem. Even the lesser common fungal leafspots, such as tar spot of maple and leaf blister of red oak, are "common" this year. Chemical controls are not warranted.

| | |
|--------|--------------|
| Willow | Willow Aphid |
|--------|--------------|

We continue to see black willow aphids. They can occasionally occur in large enough numbers to damage trees. The main concern, though, is the aphids being a nuisance by falling from trees and getting on people and other things in the yard. When they get stepped on or crushed, they become slippery and stain a reddish-purplish color. The aphids can be hosed with water or sprayed with Orthene.

Turf

Turf continues as a primary area of concern. Questions concentrate on fall seeding (OK through mid-Sept.) and sodding (OK until Oct. 1, safely), and on weed control, which is fine, so long as weeds are still growing actively.

Fruit and Berries Identification

We are also getting lots of IDs on wild fruit and berries. DO NOT eat or make preserves from any berry that has not been properly identified. Buckthorn, Virginia creeper, Jack-in-the-pulpit, baneberry, and others can make you quite ill, even though their fruits look attractive.

Warn children not to try the berries they see growing in the yard or on weeds. The lighter weight the child, the more potential for trouble.

Jill Pokorny
Plant Pathology

Jeff Hahn
Entomology

Deb Brown
Horticulture

Extension Entomology

ALFALFA INSECTS -- With the cooler weather and shorter days now, the threat of further significant damage from POTATO LEAFHOPPER (PL) (and most other alfalfa insects) is probably over for the season. Reduced feeding and reproduction due to the cool conditions, as well as a likely decline in actual numbers present*, remove the risk. (*There have been some reports of reduced catches of PL, even during warm, relatively still conditions.)

Some alfalfa now being cut that had high numbers of PL earlier is showing stunting, even though yellowing symptoms were not severe. Thus, lack of severe yellowing is not a sign that damage is not occurring.

A few ALFALFA WEEVILS are visible in the fields again, but not very high numbers have been reported.

Penny Ives
Extension Entomologist

CATTLE LOUSE AND GRUB CONTROL -- It is probably still cost effective to treat cattle being fed through the winter for chewing and sucking lice. Where the label permits treatment of the animal with a pour-on or spot-on, this will be most cost effective and probably the producer's choice because of ease of application. This should be done before November if at all possible, although labels do not no require such a cutoff.

If the grower does not fall treat and comes up with some lousy animals in January and February, misting with oil solutions of malathion, Ciodrin, Vapona, or Ectiban will do a good job and can be done in low temperatures.

Lysoff, a pour-on containing fenthion for lice only, will work both in fall and winter. Mixing it in cold weather has sometimes presented problems. However, for lice alone it may be the most cost effective insecticide presently available.

SPIDERS IN DAIRY BARNs -- A couple agents have asked about spider control in dairy barns. The best strategy is to clean out the webbing in the spring before applying whitewash. Cleaning can be done with compressed air or mechanically with a broom. Most applicators then apply a whitewash / insecticide combination. If this is done in March-May the insecticide, which is supposed to provide fly control, is of minimal value.

It is much better to do the cleaning and white washing early, and then come back over the whitewash in June with recommended rates of residual insecticide. Good fly control will usually require two applications of insecticide anyway. Thorough cleaning followed by applications of most labeled products on clean wood surfaces provide the best spider control. Admittedly, spider migration is from field to

barn, and house in the fall, but I would fit insecticide use for spider into a normal fly management plan in the spring and summer. Insecticide applied at a recommended rate to a clean surface in June and late July will provide acceptable spider suppression for the season.

David M. Noetzel
Extension Entomologist

BLACKLIGHT TRAP CAPTURES -- The following table summarizes light-trap captures of important moth pests from August 20 to August 26.

| District | Location | Average Nightly Captures | | | |
|----------|-------------|--------------------------|------|---------------------|------|
| | | Armyworm | | European corn borer | |
| | | | high | | high |
| SC | Blue Earth | 9.0 | 34 | 17.0 | 66 |
| C | Glencoe | 2.0 | 3 | 44.0 | 81 |
| NW | Hallack | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| SW | Heron Lake | trace | 1 | 3.0 | 5 |
| SW | Lamberton | 1.0 | 8 | 3.0 | 8 |
| SC | LeSueur | 9.0 | 17 | 34.0 | 88 |
| SC | Montgomery | 1.0 | 2 | 6.0 | 20 |
| WC | Morris | 1.0 | 3 | 4.0 | 9 |
| C | Olivia | 1.0 | 4 | 14.0 | 57 |
| SE | Olmsted | 4.0 | 7 | 5.0 | 10 |
| NW | Otter Tail | trace | 2 | 1.0 | 3 |
| NW | Polk | 14.0 | 73 | 1.0 | 10 |
| SC | Sleepy Eye | 2.0 | 4 | 18.0 | 42 |
| SC | Waseca | 1.0 | 7 | 15.0 | 20 |
| SW | Worthington | 1.0 | 3 | 4.0 | 8 |

Data are obtained through the cooperative efforts of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, the University of Minnesota and its Agricultural Experiment Station, and commercial and private cooperators.

Kenneth R. Ostlie
Extension Entomologist

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