

Pest Update

Pest Alerts, 6/24/2015

[Vegetable scouting sheets](#) can be found on the UMass Extension Vegetable Program website. When not given here, refer to the [New England Vegetable Management Guide](#) for scouting thresholds and treatment options.

Allium: [Onion thrips](#) found in a row of onions that were under row cover until this week, but low populations in Chittenden Co, VT and Washington Co. RI.



[Garlic bloat nematode](#) reported in ME. The nematode can be easily spread in infested soil, on equipment and infected seed and plant material. Symptoms include uneven stands, stunting, looping and bending of leaves, twisting and growth deformities. It can be controlled with long crop rotations including the elimination of volunteer onions, garlic and host weeds.

Basil: Some growers are trying the [basil downy mildew](#) tolerant variety Eleanora this week. No new cases of BDM have been confirmed. Diagnostic labs and extension educators in ME and VT are receiving reports of suspicious symptoms, but these have been diagnosed as likely cold damage and basil is growing out of this damage now.



Brassica: [Diamondback moth](#) continues to be above threshold in a broccoli crop in Washington Co., RI. Imported cabbageworm were found in the same field with only one larva, several eggs and adults present in the field but not at threshold. About 10% of a crop in Chittenden Co., VT had caterpillar feeding damage, and was below the threshold of 1 caterpillar per plant. [Flea beetles](#) on broccoli were above threshold in Washington Co., RI. A working threshold of 1 beetle per plant or >10% average leaf damage on 50% of the plants has proved effective in leafy greens and early stages of heading brassicas.

Corn: [European corn borer:](#) Trap captures were zero in Washington Co., RI and Chittenden Co., VT. Silking corn in Worcester Co., MA was scouted and no ECB damage or caterpillars were found; nor was [Sap beetle](#) which has historically been an issue at this site. Scouts in some fields in NH, however, are starting to see upwards of 20-60% damage from ECB.

European Corn Borer trap counts		Growing Degree Days		Squash Vine Borer trap counts	
Location	ECB reported Week of 6/17/15 to 6/24/15	Accumulated Growing Degree Days (F): 1/1/15 - 6/23/15		Location	SVB reported week of 6/17/15-6/24/15
Western, MA		Location	GDD Base 50°F	MA	
Hadley	0	Pittsfield, MA	650.5	Amherst	70 over 2 wks.
Sheffield	0	S. Deerfield, MA	766.2	Deerfield	9
South Deerfield	4	Northboro, MA	780.8	Barnstable	19
Whately	0	Dracut, MA	764.5	Burlington, VT	.
Central & Eastern MA		Boston, MA	767.6	Kingstown, RI	1
Leominster	1	Sharon, MA	770.9	NH	70
Millis	.	Seekonk, MA	772	Litchfield	3
Sharon	3	Burlington, VT	782.8	Hollis	3
Swansea	29	Middletown, RI	624.2	Mason	0
NH					
Litchfield	13				
Hollis	6				
Mason	1				
Burlington, VT	0				
Kingstown, RI	0				

Corn Earworm: With large thunderstorms predicted across MA this week, some growers concerned with the arrival of CEW made insecticide sprays onto their silking corn. Pay attention to the direction of storm fronts as this will affect when and where this pest arrives in MA. Corn is beginning to tassel in RI

and traps are going out this week. [Fall Armyworm](#) traps went out in MA last week; none captured yet. Sometimes early captures are due to southerly storms blowing them up the coast, but these populations don't always stick around. [Non-target moths in traps](#): several species of moths are attracted to some of the chemical compounds found in pheromone traps. Learning to identify these non-target moths is important as they are not pests in sweet corn and should not impact your pest management decision making process. We found lesser wainscot in fall armyworm traps (photo) this week and multiple other unidentified species in other traps. Alan Eaton, entomologist at the University of New Hampshire has written a useful factsheet titled: "[Identifying Moths in Traps for Sweet Corn Pests](#)"

Cucurbit: [Striped cucumber beetles](#) were found at high levels in an untreated summer squash field in Washington Co., RI and in the fingerlakes region of NY (photo). As squash is most likely in bloom at this time, insecticide treatments with medium and high bee toxicity should be avoided. [Squash vine borer](#): Nine traps out of 10 are capturing SVB in NH; many are above the threshold of 5 per trap, with as many as 70 in one trap! This pest is definitely emerging earlier than the published models have established at 900 GDD (Base 50F). [Squash Bug](#) adults have emerged in NY, keep your eyes open for this pest in MA, RI, NH and VT and scout for eggs as nymph populations can build up quickly and be difficult to control.

Solanaceous: Large [Colorado potato beetle](#) larvae were found above threshold on eggplant in Chittenden Co., VT; the threshold is 2 small or 1 large larvae per plant until fruiting stage in this crop. All stages of CPB were found on potato scouted in the same location, but still below threshold. The threshold for this pest is slightly lower in potato: 4 small or 1.5 large larvae per plant. [Tarnished plant bug](#) adults were also seen on blooming and fruiting eggplant in Chittenden Co., VT. This pest can cause fruit and flower drop at high numbers. **Three-lined potato beetle** adults were seen on tomatillo, but no larvae in Chittenden Co, VT. This pest can cause a lot of damage on tomatillo. Use floating row cover over tomatillos until bloom. [Powdery Mildew](#) was seen on high tunnel tomato in ME with cooler and drier conditions there than in MA.

Multiple: Large populations of [potato leafhopper](#) were seen on snap beans in Chittenden Co, VT. Pyrethrin is effective for adults at a threshold of 1 per plant and, azadiractin is effective for nymphs.

See photos below for adults (L) and nymphs (R). Nymphs walk very quickly sideways, whereas adults usually fly when disturbed. Signs of "hopper burn" damage include yellowing of leaf edges, followed by browning, and upward curling of leaves on potato, eggplant, and in this case in Smithfield on June 25, young pole bean plants.



The first [spotted wing drosophila](#) (male) was captured this week in NH. NY captured 2 females, one in Hudson Valley, and one in the Finger Lakes region. RI has captured 2 males and 1 female. None had been captured in MA as of June 19. These captures indicate similar timing of emergence as in 2013.