



Georgia Extension Vegetable News

The University of Georgia

Cooperative Extension Service

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Volume 6, No.1

Winter 2006

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AgriPhage Labeled

David Langston

Extension Vegetable Pathologist - UGA

Omnilytics™ has recently announced the registration of their bacteriophage disease control agent known as AgriPhage™. This material is an actual virus that specifically targets and kills specific bacterial pathogens. The phage product is actually a mix of virus particles that attack several strains of a specific bacterium. There is a prophylactic phage mix and a phage mix that is specific to the isolate that is provided by the grower to Omnilytics™. This product has been shown to be effective in greenhouse and in field trials in Florida and Georgia against bacterial speck and bacterial spot on tomatoes and peppers. However, results have been somewhat variable. This is not a stand alone product for bacterial disease suppression and is to be used in conjunction with existing bacterial disease suppression measures. This product is UV sensitive so measures must be taken to ensure the product stays active in the field. Please contact me for more detailed information and please be sure to talk to people with the Omnilytics™ company before using this product. Attached is a label.

Georgia Extension Vegetable Update

Stormy Sparks

Extension Vegetable Entomologist - UGA

The SECOND Annual Georgia Vegetable Extension-Research Update will be held at the RDC in Tifton on March 24, 2006. Plans are to start at 10AM, serve lunch at the meeting, and finish by 3:00.

This meeting is held in conjunction with the printing and distribution of the Georgia Vegetable Extension-Research Report (2005 edition, hopefully hot off the press, distributed at the meeting). The meeting consists primarily of presentations by the authors of the Extension-Research Report and other University of Georgia personnel working in vegetables. Presenters will cover the more significant findings of the work reported in the Extension-Research Report as well as addressing on-going research and current issues. Audience questions and contributions to discussion are encouraged, and we had some excellent discussions last year. This gives everyone present the opportunity to ask questions and find out more about what we are doing.

There are two changes I would like to see in the meeting this year. First, I would like to see greater grower participation. Please bring a few growers with you if you can. Second, I would like to see greater Agent participation in giving presentations. This meeting is open to ANY County Agent that wishes to give a presentation on any work you have conducted in vegetables (even if it is not in the

Extension-Research Report) or even an introduction to an issue you would like to have discussed.

If you would like some time on the program, please notify Stormy Sparks (Phone: 229-386-3424, e-mail: asparks@uga.edu). Registration is not required for anyone, but we would like to get a rough head-count for lunch; thus, if you plan to attend, please let Stormy know. If you discover at the last minute you can attend, please do, we always plan for a few extra.

Diamondback Moth Larval Collections

Stormy Sparks
Extension Vegetable Entomologist - UGA

Diamondback moth continues to present control problems, with indications of potential resistance to most everything registered. Industry groups are very interested in monitoring potential resistance in Georgia and have been periodically collecting larvae for testing for resistance. In a recent conversation with one of the industry representatives, it was pointed out that they are receiving fewer populations for testing than they really want. In fact, they indicated that they would be willing to provide some limited funding for collection of larvae. This provides us (YOU) an opportunity to monitor resistance levels in your area and collect a little funding as well.

David Riley and I have done some collecting for this program in the past (for free), but I was under the impression they were interested in very limited monitoring. I was wrong. In our discussions, I felt they would be open to receiving 6 to 10 collections from Georgia in the coming year. Preference would be for collections for spatially separated areas, but they would also be interested in temporally spaced collections in the same area if resistance is suspected (Tift Co., Colquitt Co, Mitchell Co., etc.). They indicated that \$250 per collection had been allocated to this program.

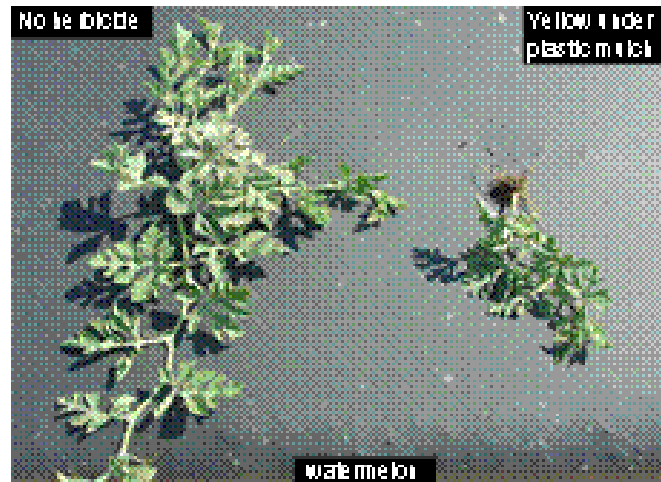
Collections should consist of at least 300 larvae where possible, but they can work with fewer larvae if necessary. They need to know the location of the collection and would also like to know the insecticide use history where possible (they don't expect spray records, but would like as much detail as possible). They plan on sending collection kits to David Riley, thus, if you get an opportunity to make a collection, please let David or me know prior to collection (if possible) and we can work out all the details on collection and shipping.

Herbicide Considerations for 2006

Stanley Culpepper
Extension Weed Scientist - UGA
and

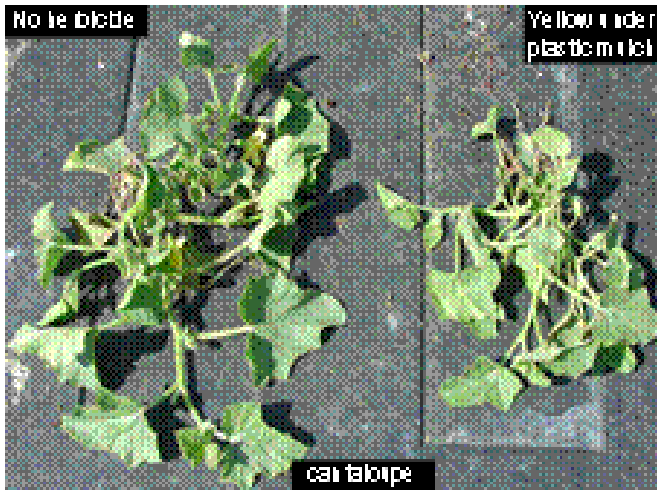
Andrew McRae
Weed Science Postdoctoral Researcher

1. Incorporation of yellow herbicides (Curbit is actually the labeled product) under mulch when planting watermelon or cantaloupe is not recommended or labeled as significant injury often occurs.



2. Applying Sandea (halosulfuron) over mulch prior to transplanting sensitive crops such as squash or watermelon can cause severe crop injury. Sandea should not be applied over mulch

as it does not readily wash from the mulch with rainfall or irrigation. Currently, Roundup WeatherMax and Gramoxone are the only products that are labeled for applications over mulch prior to transplanting labeled crops. Both Roundup and Gramoxone must be washed from the mulch with at least 0.5 inch of rainfall or irrigation in a single event prior to planting.

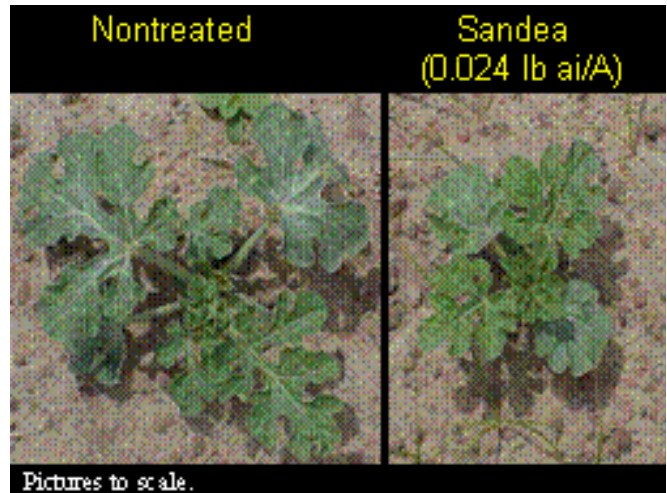


3. Sandea is labeled for use in watermelon but only as row middle applications and as a preemergence application for SEEDED plantings. Do not allow Sandea to contact the watermelon plant as stunting, delayed maturity, and even yield loss can occur.



4. Sandea also obtained a label for the use in snap and lima bean. It may be applied preemergence immediately after seeding or postemergence after

the bean has three trifoliates but before flowering. Our research has shown excellent tolerance to preemergence applications (assuming you avoid heavy rains immediately after application as with any herbicide) but visual chlorosis has been noted with postemergence applications with an occasional delay in crop maturity. As with all new herbicides, we would recommend growers try just a few acres to obtain confidence and experience on their on farm and DON'T FORGET to review the carryover restrictions to other crops with this product.



5. Aim obtained labels for preplant burndown and row middle applications for numerous crops including most cucurbits and fruiting vegetables, beans, cabbage, carrots, and many other crops (see label for exact crops labeled). Additionally, we are currently working with FMC (the manufacturer of Aim) and the Department of Agriculture to bring a label where we can apply Roundup WeatherMax plus Aim overtop of mulch to control weeds, or to kill a previous crop, prior to transplanting a new crop. One must have 0.5 inch of rain or irrigation and wait 7 days after applying Aim over mulch before transplanting the next labeled crop.

6. We are eagerly awaiting a response from the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) on our Section 18 request for the use of Sinbar in watermelon. Sinbar will provide residual activity of several broadleaf weeds such as pigweeds as well as morningglory suppression. Since we do not have a label at the time of this newsletter, we

can not discuss the potential use pattern of Sinbar in watermelon. If a label is obtained, your county Extension office will have all the necessary information needed to inform you on its use pattern.

Methyl Bromide Update

William Terry Kelley
Extension Vegetable Horticulturist-UGA

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published its final rule creating exemptions to the phase out on production and import of methyl bromide for critical uses on January 30, 2006. This was the last obstacle to clear to make Critical Use Exemption methyl bromide available to growers for the 2006 season.

Georgia vegetable growers have Critical Use Exemption for using methyl bromide in squash, cucumber, cantaloupe, tomato, eggplant and pepper. The primary critical use that is covered under the exemption is in areas where there is a strong likelihood that nutsedge will be a problem. Existing stocks of methyl bromide may be used for any of the purposes for which it was labeled prior to the phase out.

The total amount of methyl bromide approved for critical use exemption in 2006 was slightly over 18 million pounds for all sectors. That is 32% of the level that was produced in 1991 prior to the initiation of the phase out. However, only 27% can come from new production and the remaining 5% must come from existing stocks.

The 2007 Critical Use Exemption applications were considered at the annual Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol in Dakar, Senegal in December of last year. Tentative approval was given for the U.S. to get 26.25% of the 1991 levels for critical uses in 2007. However, only 20% of that can come from new production and the rest from existing stocks.

Since Critical Use Exemptions went into effect in 2005, the amount of new production allowed has dropped each year. Beginning last year, the critical use process allowed 30% of the

1991 levels in new production. That figure dropped to 27% for this year and down to 20% for next year. It is apparent from these numbers that the level approved for Critical Use Exemption will continue to decline each year.

Any deficit between production and consumption of methyl bromide must come from existing stocks. Therefore, stocks continue to be depleted at a greater rate each year as the allowable production declines. No one knows exactly when existing stocks will run out, but some projections indicate that it will happen by 2008.

If that is the case, the supply of methyl bromide will probably not be enough to meet the demand and the price will likely increase at a faster rate than it has already. Currently, growers can get methyl bromide through Critical Use Exemption by certifying at the point of purchase that they qualify for a critical use need.

The efforts to find alternatives to methyl bromide continue in several states. The best current alternatives are probably still not as good over the course of two to three crops as methyl bromide. However, growers need to start learning how to use these alternatives as they will not be applied in the same manner and will require equipment modifications.

The only single fumigant replacement for methyl bromide that is close to being labeled is methyl iodide (iodomethane). It is currently not registered in the U.S. The period for the public to comment on registration of methyl iodide ended on February 21. After EPA assesses these comments, it will then determine how to proceed with the registration process.

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This newsletter is also available on the World Wide Web at www.ugaveg.org

Your local county extension agent is a source of information on all information contained in the above newsletter articles.

County Extension Agent _____