

Potato Disease Advisory #4
May 21, 2007
Cooperative Extension System
University of Delaware

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Late blight Advisory

Disease Severity Value (DSV) Accumulation as of May 20, 2007 is as follows:

Location: Broad Acres, Zimmerman Farm, Rt 9, Greenrow: May 2

Remember that 18 DSV's is the threshold to begin a spray program for late blight

Date	LATE BLIGHT			EARLY BLIGHT
	Daily DSV	Total DSV	Spray Recs	Accumulated P days*
5/2- 5/9	2	2	none	50
5/10- 5/11	2	4	none	69
5/12- 5/16	0	4	none	109
5/17	1	5	none	117
5/18 – 5/20	0	5	none	139

Remember that these values are for potatoes that would have about 50% emergence and made a row that you can see on or before May 2.

Growers who do not want to rely only on the DSV calculations for scheduling fungicide applications should apply at least 1-2 sprays of mancozeb (Dithane, Manzate, Pencozeb, Manex II) or Bravo (chlorothalonil) before plants canopy down the row.

The weather has not been favorable for DSV accumulations this past week. Cool weather and low humidity have been very favorable for potato growth.

*** P days-** We use the predictive model WISDOM to determine the first fungicide application for prevention of early blight as well. The model predicts the first seasonal rise in the number of spores of the early blight fungus based on the accumulation of 300 physiological days (a type of degree-day unit, referred to as P-days) from green row. To date, **139P-days** have accumulated at the site. Once 300 P-days have accumulated, the first fungicide for early blight control should be applied. This usually occurs when rows are touching.

For specific fungicide recommendations, see the 2007 Delaware Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations Book.