

Potato Disease Advisory #4
May 18, 2009
Cooperative Extension System
University of Delaware

Bob Mulrooney, Extension Plant Pathologist

Late blight Advisory

If you would like a FAX or email report please call 302-831-4865, or email bobmul@udel.edu

We are using the E-WEATHER SERVICE from SkyBit, Inc as we have in the past. The service determines specific requested weather parameters (temperature, relative humidity and rainfall) based on calculations of data from the nearest National Weather Service stations. This weather data is used in the WISDOM software program for predicting late blight and making spray recommendations and accumulating p-days for early blight forecasting. Our location this year is:

Location: Shadybrook Farms, Little Creek, DE in Kent County.
Greenrow: May 1

Date	DSV	Total DSV	Spray Recommendation
5/3 -5/6		41	
5/7	2	43	
5/8	1	44	
5/9- 5/13	0	44	10- day spray interval
5/14	1	45	10- day spray interval
5/15	3	48	10- day spray interval
5/16	2	50	7-day spray interval

Fungicide sprays are recommended if no applications have been made this season. Apply sprays of mancozeb (Dithane, Manzate, Pencozeb, Manex II), Gavel or Bravo (chlorothalonil) now and again before plants canopy down the row. See the 2009 Commercial Vegetable Recommendations- Delaware for more information on fungicides.

Fortunately late blight has not been a problem here in Delaware for many years and unless you have seed from an unknown source the risk of late blight is low.

Please note: I have reversed my decision to use Blightcast from Skybit to predict late blight. I have used Wisdom in the past and all my original data calibration for predicting late blight was done with Wisdom, and it has worked as best as I know, so I will continue with it this season as well. Sorry for any confusion this may have caused. You may notice that the DSV's are higher which is due to the way that Wisdom calculates these values compared to other programs.