

Potato Disease Advisory #3
May 19, 2008
Cooperative Extension System
University of Delaware

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Late blight Advisory

Disease Severity Value (DSV) Accumulation as of May 18, 2008 is as follows:

Location: Broad Acres, Zimmerman Farm, Rt. 9, Kent County.

Greenrow: April 27

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

Date	Total DSV	Spray Recommendation
4/27- 5/6	7	None
5/8- 5/10	16	None
5/11- 5/12	21	5-day spray interval
5/12- 5/14	21	5-day spray interval
5/16-5/17	27	7-day spray interval

The rain events of last Friday and Saturday have produced another period of favorable conditions for late blight infection. **The DSV threshold of 18 is exceeded and sprays should be initiated if not already done so.** Remember that these values are for potatoes that would have about 50% emergence and made a row that you can see on or before April 27.

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. 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.

For specific fungicide recommendations, see the 2008 Delaware Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations Book.