

Potato Disease Advisory #8
June 14, 2010
Cooperative Extension System
University of Delaware

Bob Mulrooney, Extension Plant Pathologist

Disease Severity Value (DSV) Accumulation as of June 13, 2010 is as follows:

Location: Art and Keith Wicks Farm, Rt 9, Little Creek, Kent County.
Green row: May 6

Date	LATE BLIGHT			EARLY BLIGHT
	Daily DSV	Total DSV	Spray Recs	Accumulated P- days*
5/29-5/30	1	31	10- days	-
5/31	0	31	10-days	199
6/1	1	32	10-days	206
6/2	0	32	10-days	214
6/ 3- 6/5	0	32	10-days	232
6/6 – 6/8	0	32	10-days	257
6/9 – 6/10	4	36	7-days	275
6/11- 6/12	1	37	7-days	292
6/13	0	37	7-days	298

Maintain the recommended spray interval. At 300 P-days fungicide sprays will be needed to control early blight. This should occur this week. At this point weekly fungicide applications would be suggested. There have been no confirmed reports of late blight on potatoes in the region.

* **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, **298 P-days** have accumulated at the site. The first fungicide for early blight control should be applied. This usually occurs when rows are touching.

If **pink rot or leak** is a concern and no pink rot fungicide was applied at planting consider applying one of the following when potatoes are nickel-sized and repeating 14 days later. Apply in as much water as possible (20-30 gal/A): Mefanoxam/chlorothalonil (Ridomil/Bravo) 2 lb/A, or Ridomil Gold/MZ 2.5 lb/A, or Ridomil Gold/Copper 2 lb/A. If Platinum/ Ridomil Gold was applied at planting the label allows **one** foliar application of one of those products at tuber initiation if conditions warrant.

For specific fungicide recommendations, see the 2010 Delaware Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations Book.