

Potato Disease Advisory #7
June 4, 2009
Cooperative Extension System
University of Delaware

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Disease Severity Value (DSV) Accumulation as of June 4, 2009 is as follows:

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

Date	LATE BLIGHT			EARLY BLIGHT
	Daily DSV	Total DSV	Spray Recs	Accumulated P- days*
5/27	3	56	7- day interval	
5/28	0	56		217
529-5/30	2	58	5-day interval	235
5/31	0	58	5-day interval	244
6/1	0	58	5-day interval	251
6/2	1	59	7- day interval	259
6/3	0	59	10-day interval	269

Maintain the recommended spray interval. At 300 P-days fungicide sprays will be needed to control early blight. 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. At this point weekly fungicide applications would be suggested.

* **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, **269 P-days** have accumulated at the site. This should happen by next week. Once 300 P-days have accumulated, the first fungicide for early blight control should be applied. This usually occurs when rows are touching.

The **Spray Recs** column in the table is also generated by the WISDOM software program. This recommendation combines the DSV accumulation for late blight as well as the P-day accumulations for early blight and computes a spray recommendation. This is presented as a guide only. Spray decisions should be made with local conditions in mind and this information can help to determine if disease conditions are favorable.

For specific fungicide recommendations, see the 2009 Delaware Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations Book.

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.