

VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY GROWER NEWS July 1, 2022

Compiled by Vern Grubinger, University of Vermont Extension

<https://www.uvm.edu/extension/horticulture/commercial>

(802) 257-7967 ext. 303, vernon.grubinger@uvm.edu

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

On June 8 we finished planting
47 acres of spuds this year, 5 acres short of last year, but we ran short of seed. Our planter is

(Newfane) Strawberry crop is early. Production is below average due to a low-snow winter.

(Plainfield NH) Three biggest problems in farming are weather, labor and... weather. We are extremely dry and limping along on irrigation and intermittent showers; the kind that settles dust.

Wrapping up a so-so strawberry season. Problems

microbial activity) and then either dry the sample thoroughly or ship it immediately to the lab. For more information see: <https://nevegetable.org/cultural-practices/nitrogen-management>.

LEAF ANALYSIS TO GUIDE TUNNEL TOMATO FERTILIZATION

Becky Maden, UVM Extension

Leaf, or tissue analysis tells you what nutrients your tomato crop is actually taking up from the soil. Samples cost \$28 analyzed through Dairy One in NY. <https://dairyone.com/services/forage-laboratory->

Releases of parasitic wasps (*Aphidius* spp.) and the midge *Aphidoletes aphidimyza* (a fly with predatory maggots) can be applied when aphid numbers are low. *Aphidius colemani* wasps attack GPA and *Aphidius ervi* prefers PA. *Aphidoletes* attack both aphid species and then some. For well-established aphid populations causing damage, with low evidence of natural enemies (i.e., maggots or mummies), common insecticides options available as organic formulations include insecticidal soap, oils and pyrethrins. For more specific information see:

Sustainable Pest Management in Greenhouses and High Tunnels (NE SARE):

<https://www.sare.org/wp-content/uploads/Sustainable-Pest-Management-in-Greenhouses-and-High-Tunnels.pdf>

Tomato, Greenhouse & High Tunnel - Insect Control (New England Vegetable Management Guide): <https://nevegetable.org/crops/insect-control-25>

ORGANIC FUNGICIDES FOR MANAGING CERCOSPORA LEAF SPOT IN BEETS

From Meg McGrath, Cornell University, Long Island Horticultural Research Center

<https://www.vegetables.cornell.edu/pest-management/disease-factsheets/>

Symptoms of this common disease were reported this week. The biopesticide Double Nickel tank

ate detergent for food contact

the chemical ability (due to surfactants) to grab onto soil, oils, fats, or other filth with more strength than those things grab onto the surface being cleaned. <http://go.uvm.edu/detergents>

New Videos

Heated Greenhouse Benches at Blue Star Farm. Sue Decker of Blue Star Farm <http://bluestarfarmny.com> shares how the benches were constructed in her high tunnel for growing plant starts. These hot water benches are thermostatically controlled and eliminate the need to heat the entire space in the early spring months. <https://youtu.be/muYtRvLal-I>

Rebuilding a Vegetable Brush Washer for Produce Safety. Ever wonder what it takes to rebuild and update an old brush washer? We take you along the project to see all that is involved. <https://youtu.be/BRmzBQv-EtE>

Building A Better Greens Bubbler [Updated]. Key points to consider when building a greens bubbler so it is safe to operate, easier to use and keep clean. <https://youtu.be/GI2tWR5amZs>

How to Quickly Rinse Bins, at Root 5 Farm. Danielle and Keith share how they do it at Root 5 Farm. <https://youtu.be/KnST6KRfwck>

New Podcasts

Heated Greenhouse Benches at Blue Star Farm: Ep75
<https://agengpodcast.com/2022/06/20/heated-greenhouse-benches-at-blue-star-farm-ep75/>

High Tunnels, Cat Tunnels and Wash Pack Tour of Blue Star Farm: EP76
[https://agengpodcast.com/2022/06/27/greenhouse-cat-tunnel-wash-pack-tou001RG\[\(-\)\]TJETQq0.000009120](https://agengpodcast.com/2022/06/27/greenhouse-cat-tunnel-wash-pack-tou001RG[(-)]TJETQq0.000009120)