(Rochester) It has been a grea

(Burlington) Reporting from Starr Farm Community gardens in the New North End. This season has been DRY. Working in sand, with such little accumulative rainfall has put an extreme stress on my production. It has brought to my attention, the absolute necessity of drip irrigation. But without the proper infrastructure I was unable to setup lines and am greatly paying the price. It has also been a splendid year for the Mexican Bean Beetle. I did not see it right away and the population got ahead of me before I could order in the parasitic wasp/biological control to keep the population down. My bean leaves look like lacework. :(

(Plainfield) Growing season rolls on. Very grateful for regular rains here. Greenhouse cherry tomatoes yielding ok, bm(er)-2(e.)-3(G)11(re)-2(en)3(h)-4(ou)-7(se)9()-3(c)3(h)-4(er)-2(ry)12()]TJE1 0 0 1 72.0

good candidate for replacing Sungold; very little cracking during the August storms, delicious low-acid and sweet taste. The color is not quite consistent and also not as deep orange. A few individual plants of basil (Italian Large Leaf, Ithink?) seem to be resistant to downy mildew, so I might try to save seed. So far what hasn't worked: I've also had germination issues with pelleted Bolero seed, both last year's and this year's seed. Strangely enough, Nelson pelleted was great, but I only use it for early/mid carrots, when germ conditions are ideal. Ground hogs and voles have wreaked havoc, biggest damage in broccoli and beets. I noticed the groundhogs were bolder when I had the broccoli covered, so I have actually uncovered them and kept up with mowing around the field. That seemed to reduce the damage. I opted for no-copper tomatoes and I am paying the price, a few varieties (including Charger, Nyagous, Indigo Rose, Large Barred Boar, Cherokee Purple and lately German Johnson) have bit the dust from early blight, but Juliet, Estiva, Honey Drop, Sungold, New Girl, Valencia and Black Cherry are as strong as ever. No sign of late blight in any plants yet. I'm growing on biodegradable black mulch with cultivated paths. About to get a greenhouse set up for winter growing, would love any tips about using a propane heater to manage humidity over the winter. Good luck for the rest of the season, everyone!

UPDATE FROM THE UVM PLANT DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC - Ann Hazelrigg

Still no late blight of tomatoes and potatoes reported in Vermont or neighboring states. Check https://usablight.org/map to see where it has been reported. Lots of potato leafhopper damage on potatoes causing leaf edge dieback. Also early blight (target or bulls-eye leaf spot) prevalent on lower/older leaves of potato and tomato. Fair amount of tomato hornworm being reported. Blossom end rot usually seen on first and second hands, but this year it is being seen on architectural applications and tomato are watering.

Oucurbit downy mildew found in Chittenden County on cucumbers. Looks for pale/yellow angular leaf spots delineated by the veins on the upper leaf surface. Check lower leaf surface for dirty spores. http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/NewsArticles/Ouc_Downy.htm

Downy mildew can also look water-soaked on the lower leaf surface on melons. Most cukes have resistance but it depends on the race of the fungus that blows in from the south. Once it is in your fields, it is too late. You have to protect with a fungicide BEFORE the pathogen appears. For fungicides go to https://nevegetable.org/crops/disease-control-7 Also seeing gummy stem blight on water melon https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/bp/bp-142-w.pdf. There is a stage on the foliage (leafspot), stems (gummy exudate/droplets on stems) and fruit (black rot). Also seeing some plectosporium on summer squash. Look for raised triangular lesions on stems which can also look a bit like cuke beetle feeding damage. https://ag.umass.edu/fact-sheets/cucurbits-plectosporium.

Most people are seeing downy mildew in their basil now. Yellow lesions on upper leaf surface, dirty spores on lower leaf surface. Comprehensive article on the disease is at: http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/NewsArticles/BasilDowny.html

Saw some suspected slippery skin in onion causing internal rot. MA received a sample of an onion with a brown internal scale that the clinic is suspecting is the result of drought. Cabbage aphids reported in NH and MA. Treat if >10% of the plants are infested with aphids, especially after heads or sprouts begin to form. If you have high populations of beneficials you would like to protect, consider using the following active ingredients first: azadirachtin, Beauvaria bassiana, insecticidal soap, or petroleum oil. Black rot damage seen in broccoli. Look for v shaped yellow lesions on leaves and browning in vascular system. Hot water treat your seeds.

Seeing some curling and twisting of celery foliage with stem lesions and will test for celery anthracnose. Please let us know if you see this in your celery. It is a new fungal disease that has been destructive in other states.

http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/hortmatt/2013/09hrt13a3.htm

As always, if you have a question about a sick plant or insect, send a picture or sample to the Clinic: ann.hazelrigg@uvm.edu, 802-656-

SMALL FRUIT MANAGEMENT UPDATES Mary Conklin, UConn Extension

Blueberries: Phomopsis twig blight, caused by the fungus Phomopsis vaccinii, is alive and well

PREPARING AND USING BOKASHI, August 25, 3-5 pm

This field workshop will take place at the UVM Horticulture Research and Education Center, 65 Green Mountain Drive, S.Burlington, Vermont. Cost: Free! Learn how to make and use bokashi, a type of fermented compost with Japanese origins. Topics include: differences between bokashi and compost, how to prepare bokashi bran with a microbial inoculant to make bokashi, and how to use the resulting product in a garden or on a farm. We will also share results from a graduate student SARE project which compared the use of bokashi alongside compost and vermicompost and its effects on soil quality and crop growth. Snacks and information handouts will be provided. Contact Dana Christel at 920-323-7212 or dchrist2@uvm.edu with any questions. Please RSVP ASAP if you will attend.