

September 5, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Palmer Amaranth Informational Meeting

There will be an educational meeting for farmers who have concerns about this fall's discovery of Palmer Amaranth in Highland County. OSU Extension Weed Specialist, Dr. Mark Loux will be here to discuss strategies for controlling this weed in the next few years. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at Hillsboro High School at 7:00 p.m.

## Are Pumpkin and Squash at Risk for Downy Mildew in Ohio?

This information comes from OSU Extension Specialist, Dr. Sally Miller. This information appeared in the Veg Net this growing season and most of it was in the recent issue on August 31. If you grow these crops you may want read this closely.

Downy mildew has still not been confirmed on pumpkins and squash in Ohio, although the disease is widespread on cucumbers and melons throughout most of the state. This is the time of year when we really start to look for downy mildew on squash and pumpkins, as strains of the pathogen that attack these crops move into the area from the south, usually aided by remnants of hurricanes or tropical storms that reach Ohio. Remnants of tropical storm Harvey are likely to reach southern Ohio at least by Friday. Downy mildew spores can be transmitted long distances in the air, and are brought to the surface by rain. We are particularly concerned with outbreaks reported in Kentucky on butternut squash this week (<http://cdm.ipmpipe.org/scripts/map.php>), an indication that the pathogen is established in the area and can serve as a source of inoculum for areas to the north and east. Growers in southern Ohio should be especially vigilant, although we recommend stepped-up scouting of pumpkins and squash, and application of protectant fungicides, throughout the state.

Fungicide recommendations include the more effective downy mildew fungicides Ranman 400SC and/or Orondis Opti A & B (co-pack) should be the core of the fungicide program. Zing!, Gavel, Zampro or other fungicides can be rotated into the program. A chlorothalanil (Bravo, Echo, Equus, Initiate) or mancozeb (Dithane, Manzate, Penncozeb) product should be tank mixed with the downy mildew fungicide. Always rotate fungicides with different modes of action and follow label instructions. Remember that Orondis Opti A & B applications are restricted to 1/3 of the total fungicide applications. We recommend applying the first Orondis application when the risk of downy mildew is highest. Under highly conducive environmental conditions, apply fungicides on a 5-7 day schedule. When the risk is lower due to hot, dry, sunny weather, or downy mildew has not been reported in the area, the schedule may be stretched to 7-10 days.

## Dates to Remember

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Sept. 2-9 Highland County Fair



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- Sept. 7 Adams County Jr. Fair Beef BBQ at Ohio Valley CTC.
- Sept. 11 Brown Co. Soil and Water/Farm Bureau Annual Meetings in Georgetown at Southern Hills CTC. Call 378-4424 for reservations.
- Sept. 12 Beef Industry Update for Adams and Surrounding Counties at the Adams Co. Fairgrounds at 6:30 p.m. To RSVP call 614-873-6736, includes dinner.
- Sept. 13 Palmer Amaranth Weed Update. Time and location to be announced.
- Sept. 14 Fertilizer Certification opportunity at North Adams High School starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Round Room. Call to pre-register at least a week prior at the Adams Co. OSU Extension office, 937-544-2339 and ask for Barbie.
- Sept. 16 Highland County Farm Bureau Farm Tour.
- Sept. 19-21 Farm Science Review
- Sept. 25-30 Brown Co. Fair.