

Vermont Vegetable and Berry  
Growers Association Meeting

# Pest and Disease Update

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THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT  
**EXTENSION**  
AGRICULTURE



Broad mite or cyclamen mite

Frost May 18, 2023-bb up to 50% loss, retail garden center sales up due to new gardeners relocating due to COVID 19



Mummyberry-also can look like  
frost, bb turn pink, grow several  
cultivars, cover this spring with  
mulch



# Exobasidium leaf spot - typically SE fungus/low bush ME bb disease. Prune and lime sulfur



Bill Cline, NC STATE



Strawberry anthracnose-warm weather fungus disease, comes in typically on transplants-fruit, runners, crowns. Look for orange spores.





Pepper- whole bed in high tunnel affected.

Black plastic-none used

Suspect abiotic anytime a lot of plants are affected.

June 2024

July 11, 2023 6-9

in



# Slime mold-NBD



Liverworts-can be a problem in shady, humid high tunnels



White mold-sclerotinia High RH/soil moisture



# Fruit cracking-saturated soils





Early blight-*Alternaria* leaf spot-  
look for target-shaped spots, usually on  
high tunnel edges

No late blight again this year!



# Leaf mold



Sow bugs in high tunnels- like wet conditions, places to hide, usually detritus feeders, but can feed on outer layers of bulb crops and seedlings- decrease OM, eliminate hiding places and watch watering. Can use bait with iron phosphide and Spinosad.



Downy mildew-early this year, OW in south, angular leafspot, dirty spores underneath, like cool cloudy weather, no rescue, res. varieties next year!



# Clubroot cabbage



Wilting, stunting

Soilborne fungus-like organism

Likes low pH

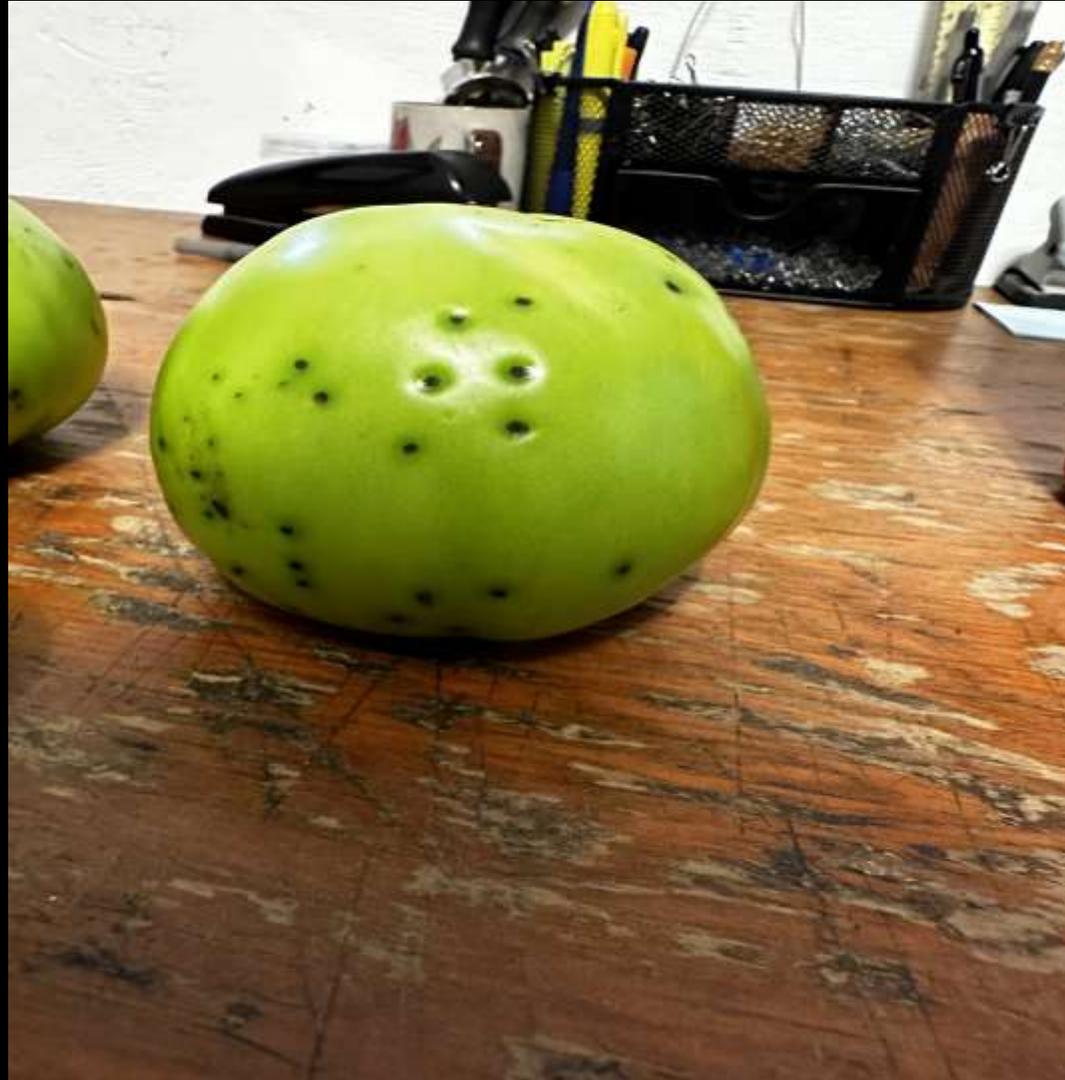
Rotate out of brassicas for several years (5-7)

Don't go from infested fields to clean fields

Celery leaf curl-warm and wet >12 hrs fungus curling, twisting foliage, black streaking on petioles and dead centers. Rotation, varieties, lots of other crops can be infected. Can look like black heart.



# Bacterial spot-warm and wet, wind-driven rain



Enlarged lenticels- harvested when soils are wet July 27





## Phytophthora crown rot-peppers

- Saturated soils > 24 hrs
- Rotate out of susceptible plants- Solanaceae, cucurbits



Ontario



Michigan



Bottom rot in chicory,  
lettuce warm and wet



Rotation, upright heads

# Plectosporium blight

¼" lesions on petioles, diamond shaped, rotation out of cucurbits, fungicides



9.24

# Clammy goosefoot-only id in 3 spots in VT, lots of seeds..



# Winter cutworm

Usually Nov/Dec

Look for dashed lines

Very cold hardy

Large holes, leaf edge feeding

Works at night

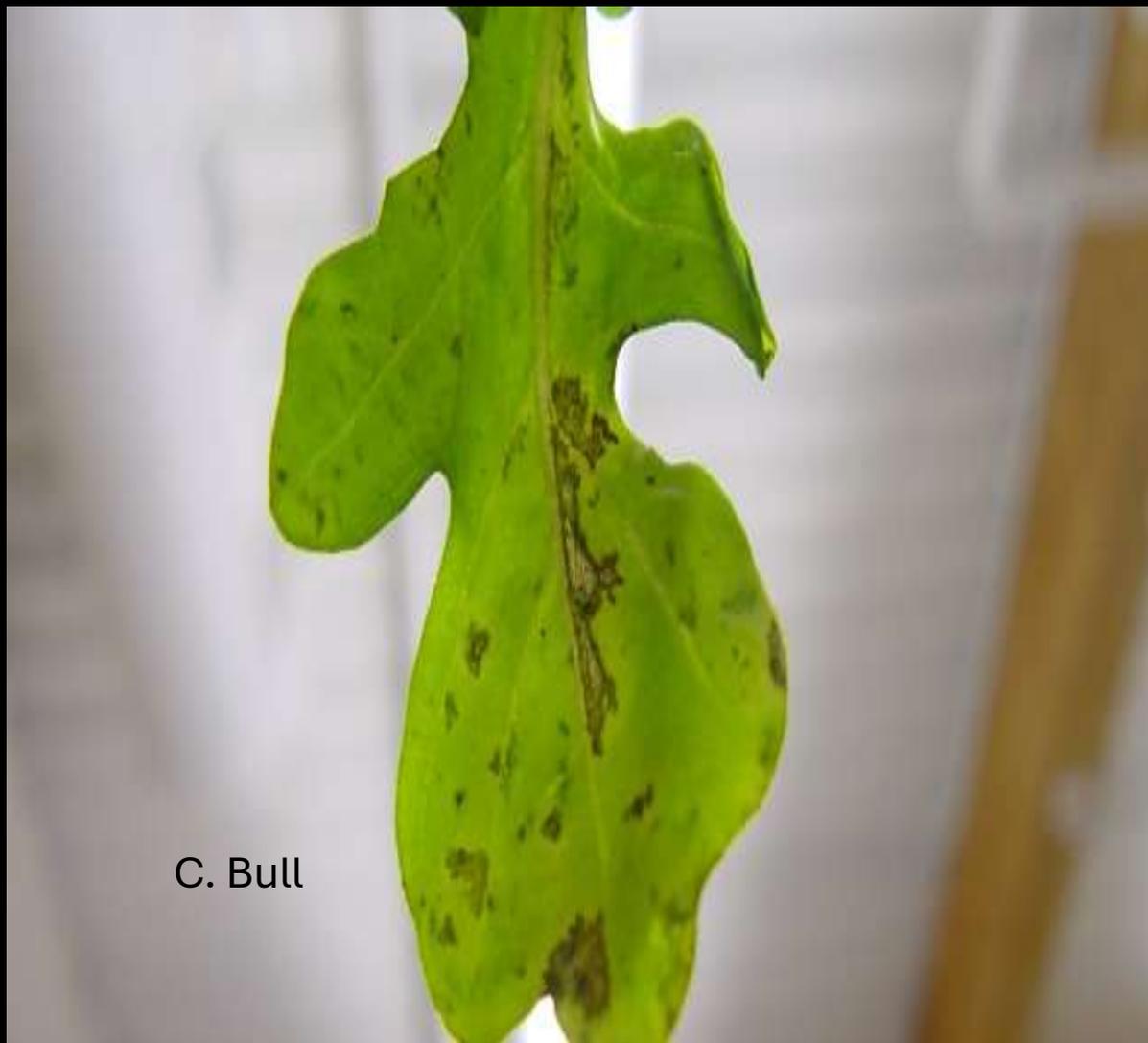
Baits=Spinosad and iron phosphide, Dipel



Spinach crown mite-feeds in crown, once warm sunny weather/faster growing conditions plants grow out of it- Spot trt Neem



# Arugula bacterial leaf spot in high tunnels-want samples!







## Artillery or shotgun fungus

- Tiny tar-like black spots on siding, windows, and cars, or on foliage of landscape plants
- ejects its mature spores high up in the air, leaving stains.
- Fruiting bodies usually found on rotting mulch/bark
- Won't grow about over 78 or dry

# Seed corn maggot - April 27, 2023

