

Cornell Offers New Onion IPM Manual

ITHACA, N.Y. — The subject is onions, but the latest release from Cornell Cooperative Extension is no crying matter.

Instead, Integrated Pest Management for Onions provides onion growers, consultants, and industry and extension personnel with the information necessary to make their job easier.

The new manual is a useful reference in the recognition and management of insects, diseases, and weed pests of onions.

"The publication emphasizes onions grown on muck soils in northeastern North America, but will be a valuable guide for onion producers across the country," said author Michael P. Hoffman, assistant professor of entomology at Cornell University, who has research and extension responsibility for integrated pest management in vegetable crops. He co-authored the manual with Curtiss H. Petzoldt, assistant director of the New York State Integrated Pest Management Program, and Anne C. Frodsham, former research support specialist with Cornell University's Department of Entomology.

The 78-page, 8.5" by 11", soft-

cover manual made its debut at the New York State Vegetable Conference in Syracuse in early February. Integrated Pest Management for Onions contains a general introduction to the concept and practice of integrated pest management and discusses the growth, development and production of onions.

It contains 86 color photographs of important pests that attack onions, including insects, mites, diseases, and weeds. For each insect pest, information is provided on appearance, life cycle and biology, and management.

Natural enemies of insect pests of onions—predators, parasitoids, and pathogens—are also detailed, as well as how to conserve these natural enemies and use them in an integrated pest management program from early season to harvest.

Sections are also devoted to managing resistance to pesticides, with specific information on how to scout onions and use the currently available disease prediction systems. Appendices detail several forecasting systems, including Blight-Alert, Botcast, Downcast,

and the installation and operation of baited cone traps for onion maggot flies.

Approximately 21,000 acres of onions are grown each year in the northeastern United States with estimated cash receipts of \$82 million. The principal type of onion grown on New York's

12,000 acres of the crop is the pungent yellow globe. New York ranks number six in the country in the fresh market production of onions.

The publication was supported in part by a Smith-Lever grant from the USDA, and was produced by Communications Services at Cornell University's New York State Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, NY. An associated 30-minute videotape

on Integrated Pest Management for Onions will be released in the spring.

Integrated Pest Management for Onions (order code 139IPM119) retails for \$17 (includes tax and shipping) and is available from the Resource Center at Cornell University (phone: (607) 255-2080; FAX: (607) 255-9946; e-mail: dist_center@cce.cornell.edu). There are discounts for quantity orders.

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21st Century Announces Death Of Rex

SHAWANO, Wis.—On Jan. 10, at just over 14 years of age, one of the Holstein breed's all-time great Holstein sires, 1H7380 Lutz Brookview Bell Rex, was put to sleep because of deteriorating physical condition.

One of the most prolific semen producers in AI history, Rex is expected to have an impact on Holstein herds around the world for years to come.

Through Dec. 31, 1995, Rex had produced 1,022,722 units of semen, 933,846 of which have been sold (through Nov. 30, 1995). He is believed to be one of only three bulls in history to produce over a million semen units.

Rex continues to be a high-ranking sire in terms of his ability to transmit outstanding production and type. In the latest USDA and Holstein Association sire summaries, he has 27,703 daughters in 6,779 herds, with a predicted transmitting ability of +1265 lbs. of milk and +44 lbs. of protein.

Classified Excellent-94 himself, Rex has transmitted outstanding type to some of his daughters, including extreme dairyness and very correct udders. He is also one of the breed's best for reducing calving difficulty when used on virgin heifers.

Rarely does a bull remain active in AI for the length of time Rex has been at 21st Century Genetics. "Bulls like Rex don't come along very often," said Glen Gilbert, vice president of production for the Cooperative. "He's a rare individual that has helped the profitability of dairy herds world-wide."

In other news, Noba, 21st Century Genetics and Federated

Genetics have been designated as the exclusive North American distributors for semen on bulls from two cooperatives in France, URCECOF and Genes Diffusion.

Initially, one Holstein bull, named Ectavia, is to be available. His French proof converts to +60 lbs. of protein, +62 lbs. of fat and +2018 lbs. of milk. There are no official conversions for type with France, but his French type proof is +1.0. He has sired excellent udders and above average stature.

Ectavia resulted from an imported embryo. He is sired by Cleitus and is out of an Excellent-90 daughter of Valiant with over 36,000 pounds of milk and 1159 pounds of protein.

The initial shipments of semen from France are expected in late February. Availability on Ectavia will be limited at first, but supplies should increase during the year. With its large, progressive sampling program, other French bulls will be added to the lineup on a regular basis.

The two French cooperatives have been sampling about 135 bulls per year, but plan to increase that number to 155. Selection programs are similar to ours, with strong emphasis on protein pounds. They also emphasize percent protein and udders.

Cows are contracted throughout France and embryos are imported from the United States.

U.S. bulls have been used heavily as sires of sons and the French have also begun to use Dutch bulls as mating sires. Similar to our experience with the bulls from Holland, many of the bulls in France will be eligible for registry in the official Holstein herdbook.

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