



**WILL DISEASES PROLIFERATE?**

We had an unusually wet June this year and this has the potential to cause more diseases to show up in your fields now and through harvest.

Although it is hot and dry as I write today, the presence of a greater amount of fungal spores has the potential to result in significant disease outbreaks if the weather turns wet again.

While you can stretch the intervals between fungicide applications during hot, dry weather, be

prepared to spray if the weather turns wet again.

**Fruit**

Apple rots can be expected to be more severe in Pennsylvania orchards this year because of the wet weather. Although fruit are infected in the immature green fruit stage, rots won't appear until the fruit are nearly ripe.

The only two fungicides we have to prevent fruit rots at this time of year are Captan or Ziram. Captan is a little more effective but Ziram does not have the extended

re-entry restrictions that Captan has after application. When rains are frequent and heavy, care must be taken to maintain fungicide protection.

Brown rot was a problem for sweet cherry growers because of wet weather and fruit cracking. Indar has proven to be very effective in controlling brown rot under these severe conditions.

Indar has a 0 day preharvest interval. Indar is not labeled for prunes or plums. There is no label for Orbit on cherries. However, Orbit has performed very well in brown rot trials on other stone fruits.

Rovral and Ronilan are protectant fungicides which are also effective in controlling brown rot. Since they are protective materials they can be washed off by rain. The preharvest interval for Rovral was changed from 0 days to 7 days. Ronilan has a 14-day preharvest interval.

Sooty blotch and fly speck will also be a problem this year because of our early wet weather, and we should expect to see these diseases

earlier than usual this season. Once you see these diseases, they can spread rapidly in the orchard, especially if the weather remains wet.

Topsin-M or Benlate are the most effective materials in controlling these diseases. Growers should apply one of these materials for sooty blotch and fly speck control along with Captan or Ziram for fruit rot control.

**Vegetables**

The following are some disease reminders from Dr. Alan MacNab. He notes that some vegetable diseases will begin to appear in July while others will get started in July, although symptoms may not appear until August. In addition to the following notes, controls are presented in the "Commercial Vegetable Production Guide." Identification information is available in the colored publication, "Identifying Vegetable Diseases," available from the Penn State Campus at University Park and from most extension offices.

**Asparagus:**

Rust: Apply fungicides to young plantings. During the years before harvest is started, and when fern growth becomes heavy relatively early, fungicides may be important, especially because of the dense growth.

**Beans:**

Mosaic viruses: Use resistance to BV-1. Provide good weed control; weeds are a source of bean viruses. Do not plant near clovers — they are a source of bean viruses. Do not make successive plantings in adjacent strips or fields; the few diseased plants that appear in early plantings act as an important virus source for later adjacent plantings.

White mold and gray mold: Apply protective fungicide sprays when warranted. Wet conditions immediately before and during bloom promote disease development.

A Section 18 label for Ronilan 50DF has been granted for Pennsylvania in 1996; this material will be beneficial when wet cool conditions promote Botrytis gray mold development. Growers who use this material must have in their possession a copy of the Section 18 conditions of this registration and must report use of this product.

**Beans, limas:**

Downy mildew: During wet weather, when conditions favor disease, use fungicides. See the Vegetable Guide for details.

**Beets:**

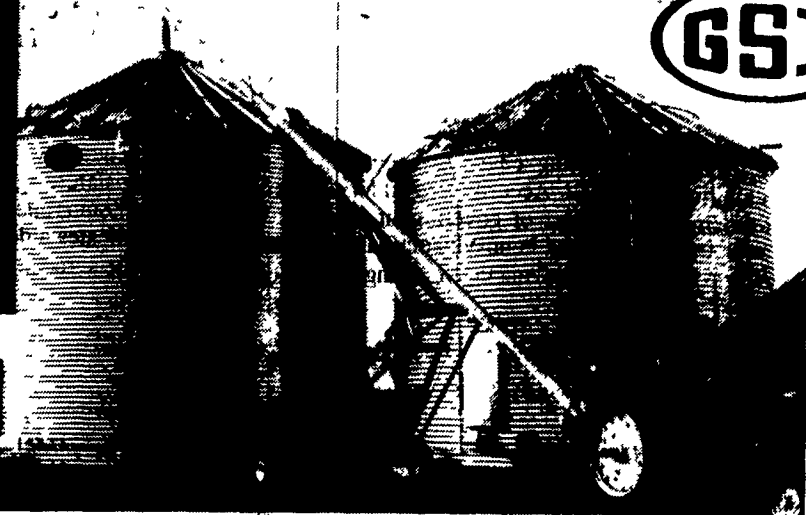
Leaf spots: Use fungicides where disease usually occurs. (Turn to Page A24)

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