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Cucumber Downy Mildew has been confirmed on cucumber plants grown for research at the UW Hancock Agricultural Research Station in Waushara County, WI. The disease will be managed with fungicides to reduce pathogen sporulation in this plot. Symptoms were noted on Monday August 15, 2022 and the pathogen sporangia were confirmed morphologically later that day via microscopy. We have not diagnosed this disease in Wisconsin sentinel plots (non-fungicide-treated susceptible cucurbit plants) or in commercial production fields in several years. The sentinel plot in Dane County has not had downy mildew, to date. Symptoms from the Hancock plot are provided, below.



It's important to manage preventatively for downy mildew on cucurbits, especially on cucumber, given the aggressive nature of the pathogen when environmental conditions favor disease. I am presuming at this time that the pathogen is of the Clade 2 grouping of the downy mildew pathogen (Pseudoperonospora cubensis) since it has been diagnosed, so far, only on cucumber. The research field does include other cucurbits and foliage has been sampled to determine if they are infected with downy mildew. The research program of Dr. Yiqun Weng, Research Geneticist with the USDA-ARS/UW-Horticulture is working through this and will help determine the pathogen type. I thank Dr. Weng and his research program for their attention and quick response to this disease concern.

The fungicides listed in the figure, below, for Cucumber Clade 2 DM are currently recommended for best managing this disease in central Wisconsin. Please be on the lookout for symptoms (vellowing and angular or straight edge/vein-limited lesions) and signs (fuzzy dark growth on leaf undersides) on cucumber and melon crops. Please alert me or our UW Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic if you see symptoms/signs on any cucurbits. We would very much like to follow up to better understand the pathogen to offer best management recommendations.

Fungicide Programs for Cucumber (Clade 2) DM

If program is initiated before disease onset: adhere to a 7-day interval. If program is initiated after disease onset: adhere to a 5-day interval.



on multiple years of field research by Hausbeck, Michigan State Univ. & Quesadi Ocampo at NCSU	Use of highest labeled rate of product	
	Previcur Flex 6SC (2 day PHI), GH	propamocarb hydrochloride 28
	Elumin SC (2 day PHI)	ethaboxam 22
	Ranman 3.6SC (0 day PHI)	cyazofamid 21
	Gavel 75WG (5 day PHI), GH	mancozeb M3 + zoxamide 22
	Orondis Opti (0 day PHI)	oxathiapiprolin 49/chlorothalonil M5
	Orondis Ultra (0 day PHI)	oxathiapiprolin 49/mandipropamid 40
	Omega 500F (7 day PHI)	fluazinam 29
	Zampro 4.4SC (day PHI)	ametoctradin 45/dimethomorph 40
	Zing! SC (0 day PHI)	zoxamide 22 + chlorothalonil M05
	Alternate products and mix each with eith Dithane (mancozeb) 3 lb 5 day PHI, M3, G	er: iH; or Bravo (chlorothalonil) 2 <u>pt 0 dav</u> PHI, M5

Bold indicates best in MI

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As a reminder, the pathogen is now known to have two 'strains' for clade types. The type (Clade 2) which infects cucumber, can also infect melon. Due to fungicide resistance within the downy mildew pathogen population, especially in Clade 2, selection of fungicides is important. Management of cucurbit downy mildew requires preventative fungicide applications as commercial cultivars are generally susceptible to current strains (Clades) of the pathogen. Management information can be sourced here:

https://vegpath.plantpath.wisc.edu/2022/07/03/update-10-july-3-2022/