Production Pointers

Summer 2001

Calendar of Events
Mark Your Calendars --- Plan To Participate

♦ July 17th - Twilight Advanced IPM Clinic
♦ July 21st - LESREC Poplar Hill Field Day
♦ July 25th - Upper Marlboro REC Field Day & Voucher Training & Twilight Vineyard Tour
♦ August 2nd - Western MD REC Farm Field Day
♦ August 16th - WYE REC Farm Field Day

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Twilight Advanced IPM Clinic
July 17, 2001

Are you interested in learning the proper pest detection strategies used by trained IPM scouts? If you intend to use IPM thresholds, then correct pest monitoring procedures are critical to your success. Learn how to sample for different key pests in an array of field, vegetable, and fruit crops using the sample tools and techniques of the professional IPM scout. This will be advanced, hands on training session for students of IPM. Please call me if you are interested in attending the Twilight Advanced IPM Clinic, on July 17, 2001 at the Upper Marlboro Research Farm, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. See enclosed flier.

Upper Marlboro Farm Field Day
July 25, 2001

Mark you calendars now for the Upper Marlboro Farm Field Day on July 25, 2001, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Highlights of the annual research farm field day will be:

- Timber and Agro-Forestry
- Veterinarian Health Update
- Orchard Tree Fruit
- Ethnic Vegetables
- Plasticulture Equipment Demonstration
- Tobacco Update
- Poultry
- Weed Control
- Pond Management

Nutrient Voucher Training – Manure Calibration Demonstration
July 25, 2001

Don’t miss this opportunity, following the field day barbecue, to participate in a Nutrient Management Voucher Training session from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. A manure calibration demonstration will be included as part of the training. See enclosed flier.

Twilight Vineyard Tour
July 25, 2001

Hosted by the Southern Maryland Vineyard Team, in the evening, following the Upper Marlboro field day activities the Southern Maryland research vineyard will be showcased at the Twilight Vineyard Tour, on July 25, 2001 from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. See enclosed flier.

MARYLAND WEEDS
By C. Edward Beste

REGISTRATION UPDATE: As reviewed at meetings last winter, all requests were granted by EPA and MDA for 2001 as follows:

- **Dual Magnum® (S-metolachlor)/tomato (Section 18)** approved as a transplant soil surface application as an Emergency Registration for 2001 (Syngenta does not require Indemnification for this use).
- **Reflex (fomesafen)/snap beans (Section 18)** approved as a postemergence application.
- **Sinbar (terbacil)/watermelon (Section 18)** approved as a preemergence application at 2 to 3 oz product/A.

**COMMAND® 3 ME(clomazone):** Previous Section 18 and 24c registrations have been discontinued with the addition of all vegetable registrations to the Command (3ME) (ME=microencapsulated) label. The old 4 EC Command product will be discontinued. Cantaloupe has been added as a new crop for the 3ME product. All previous crops labeled for Command (4E) are on the Command (3ME) with the exception of jack-o-lantern pumpkins. Only processing pumpkins are on the new label. The new Command (3ME) label includes these vegetable crops: snap beans, cantaloupe, pumpkins (processing), cucumber, peas, peppers, sweet potatoes, squash-summer and winter, and watermelon.

**SANDEA® HERBICIDE** is the new tradename for halosulfuron (common name) which has a 24c (Special Local Needs) registration for cucumbers in Maryland. Sandea is registered at 2/3 to 1 1/3 oz product/A as a preemergence or postemergence application. Add surfactant for postemergence applications. Sandea control mainly broadleaf weeds and yellow nutsedge. The label should be reviewed for specific weeds controlled by the application method. For example, Sandea controls lambsquarters preemergence but not postemergence. Sandea, postemergence is excellent for yellow nutsedge, pigweeds and ragweeds. Post application must be made before cucumbers “flop” (also called “the start of vining”). Sandea will be compatible with IPM strategies for weed control.

Sandea, as a sulfonylurea herbicide may interact with organophosphate insecticides. See the label for application restrictions on soil and foliar applied organophosphates on cucumbers. Do not apply to crops treated with soil applied organophosphates insecticides. The PHI is 30 days. Crop rotational intervals are restrictive and should be reviewed on the EPA-registered label. Indemnification by the grower thru the Maryland Vegetable Growers Association (MVGA) is required by the manufacture, Gowan Co. Indemnification forms are available from: R. David Myers, MVGA Secretary/Treasurer, c/o Maryland Cooperative Extension, 7320 Ritchie Highway, Suite 210, Glen Burnie, MD 21061 (410) 222-6759.

**BASAGRAN® (bentazon)/peas:** the PHI (preharvest interval) after application has been reduced to 10 days. Previously, the PHI was 30 days.

WEED ESCAPES due to recent wet conditions are usually grasses. If crabgrass is the main problem, consider
postemergence grass herbicide because it should be better than Poast™ for crabgrass control. However, these two products are similar in performance for other annual grasses. Last spring (2001), most vegetables, melons, and strawberries were added to the Select™ label. If Poast is used for crabgrass control, the addition of nitrogen as UAN (2 to 4 quarts/A) or AMS (2.5 lb/A) with oil concentrate is suggested. The Select 2 EC, Supplemental Label and Poast labels are on-line at www.greenbook.net or www.cdms.net.

SHADEOUT® (rimsulfuron) is labeled as a postemergence treatment for tomatoes and will control grasses and broadleaf escapes and suppress yellow nutsedge. This use is not in EB 236 - Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations because it was labeled in MD and adjoining states this past winter. The postemergence rate is 2 oz product / A with a non-ionic surfactant (2 pints/100 gal). Optimum control is obtained on small weeds of less than 1 inch height, but control on larger weeds, such as morningglory, can be of benefit to the grower. This label is on the web sites above or at www.dupont.com.

### Alfalfa

**Seed Inoculation ≠ Seed Treatment**

“Are you planning to plant alfalfa in August?” If you were to answers yes, then the next question I often ask is, “Did you buy alfalfa seed inoculant?” Often the answer is, “The seed comes already treated.”

Now lets shed some light on the above conversation, and take the topic of seed inoculation and seed treatment to task: First, definitions are required. **Seed treatment** is the process of applying a fungicide, and sometimes an insecticide to the seed prior to planting to protect against seedling decay, blight, and insect damage. This seed treatment process is normally provided by the seed company, although rarely is an insecticide seed treater applied commercially. Additional seedling protection may be obtained by applying planter-box seed treaters at planting time. **Seed inoculation** is required for legumes, and is the process of coating the seed with the appropriate rhizobium bacteria species required. The root rhizobium complex creates the symbiotic nitrogen fixation nodules evident early in the development of the seedling plant. Secondly, it is true that alfalfa seed routinely comes both seed treated and inoculated. However, the rhizobium bacterium normally abides in a moist, cool root nodule not on a dry, chemically treated seed. I have witnessed poor nodulation development from commercially inoculated seed, but have never seen planter-box inoculated seed failures. A bag of alfalfa seed is nearly $200.00, and the seed inoculant is $2.50. The decision is yours, but always remember that alfalfa that is seed treated may or may not have seed inoculant, and the seed inoculant may or may not be viable.

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**MDA 2001 Pesticide Container Recycling Collection**

The closest site for Prince George's and Anne Arundel County farmers to drop-off their rinsed pesticide containers for recycling is at the Beltsville, USDA Research Center, Building 302, Visitor Center on Powder Mill Road, on July 27, 2001; August 24, 2001; and September 21, 2001. The containers will be received on all three dates from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Additional information on the required rinsing of the pesticide containers, and the recycling program can be obtained by calling the MDA Pesticide Regulation Section Office at 410 841-5710.

**Thanks for Partnering**

R. David Myers

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Anne Arundel & Prince George's Counties
Fruits and Vegetables

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