

The University of Maryland Extension Agriculture and Natural Resources Profitability Impact Team proudly presents this publication for the commercial vegetable and fruit industry.

July 2, 2015

## Special Alert # 1: Confirmed Downy Mildew on Watermelon in DE

### Confirmed Downy Mildew on Watermelon in Sussex County, DE

Dr. Kate Everts, MD/DE Extension Specialist, Plant Pathology has confirmed downy mildew on watermelon in Sussex County on July 1, 2015. This is the first report of downy mildew in the region for 2015.

Downy mildew has been confirmed in watermelon in Sussex County, Delaware. This pathogen, which doesn't overwinter here and is introduced each year, is likely present throughout both Maryland and Delaware now. The strain that infects watermelon usually doesn't arrive to the mid-Atlantic region until August and therefore growers may be caught unaware. Growers should scout for the disease and apply fungicides that are effective for this pathogen.

Conventional fungicides include Zampro, Ranman and Gavel. Organic growers may apply an OMRI approved copper or Bacillus product (for ex. Serenade or Sonata). Be sure to consult EB 236 for the best season long spray strategies.

Commercial Vegetable  
Production Recommendations  
Maryland 2015 EB-236



On-Line at:

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