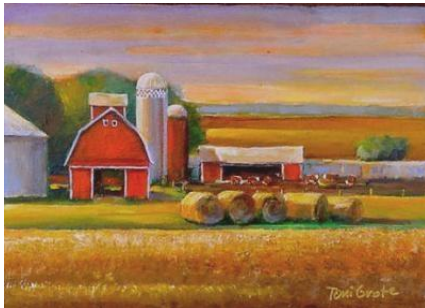




FALL 2015



Greetings,

The sights and sounds of harvest season abound. The whirl of grain bin fans and combines fill the evening air as corn and soybean harvest continues. The Southern Maryland fair season is wrapping up and with it go the many colors of 4-H ribbons, animals and projects as well as my favorite, the familiar smell of roasted peanuts. I heard the first sounds of migrating Canada Geese a couple of weeks ago.

The weather this summer has brought its share of adventures. A very wet May and June and continued rains into July helped to produce a good corn crop for most. August and September brought dry to very dry conditions to most of the area. A great corn crop turned to a good crop, and soybeans struggled to fill out pods. I have heard of corn yields averaging around 150-160 bushels per acre. Soybean harvest has been variable and recent rains are delaying harvest. With smaller bean size, combine adjustment will be important. Many vegetable producers struggled with wet soils and slow harvest, but market prices for the most part were good. The early wet season caused some issues with root rots and bacterial diseases as well.

Roundup resistant Palmer Amaranth has now been found in all three lower Southern Maryland Counties. We are watching the spread of this weed carefully, as it will take a careful management approach to control. We have conducted trials on herbicide effectiveness this summer and will be providing strategies for control this winter.

We hope to see everyone at the winter meetings this year. There are a host of fall and winter conferences available this year. Some of the traditional meetings include the Crops Conference to be held December 1st, the Hay and Pasture Conference on January 13th and the Fruit and Vegetable Conference on February 11th. Hope you have a safe, productive and bountiful fall.

--Ben Beale



October 14, 2015

Maryland Agriculture Commission
Baden Volunteer Fire Department, Brandywine MD

October 20, 2015

Optional Review Session for Pesticide Exam
Ag Service Center, Leonardtown MD

October 27, 2015

Southern Maryland Farm Transfer and Estate Planning Workshop
American Legion Hall- Hughesville, Maryland

October 28, 2015

Pesticide Exam
Ag Service Center, Leonardtown MD

November 6-7, 2015

12th Annual Small Farm Conference
UMD- Eastern Shore

November 10, 2015

Pesticide Applicator Recertification,
Nutrient Voucher Training
Ag Service Center, Leonardtown MD

November 17-19, 2015

Maryland Mid-Atlantic Crop Management School
Princess Royale Hotel, Ocean City MD

December 1, 2015

Southern Maryland Crops Conference
Baden Volunteer Fire Department, Brandywine MD

December 11, 2015

Loveville Produce Auction Annual Meeting
Dove Point Lane, Leonardtown MD

2016 Dates:

January 13, 2016

Southern MD Forage Conference
Baden Volunteer Fire Department, Brandywine MD

February 11, 2016

Southern MD Vegetable & Fruit Production Meeting
Gambrills, MD Anne Arundel County



Maryland Agricultural Commission to hold Public Meeting

October 14, 2015 in Brandywine

The Maryland Agricultural Commission will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 7:00 p.m. at **Baden Volunteer Fire Department** (16608 Brandywine Road, Brandywine, MD 20613). The meeting will be held after the commission's fall agricultural tour of Charles County and Prince George's County. Anyone interested in farming and rural topics is encouraged to attend. Dinner will not be served.

The public meeting is designed to give citizens an opportunity to share their opinions and discuss issues and policies affecting agriculture and rural communities, exchange ideas, get better acquainted with the role of the commission, and meet the commission members. The Maryland Agricultural Commission is made up of 30 members, appointed by the Governor, who represent commodities and organizations across the state and serve as an advisory body to the Agriculture Secretary. As a group, the members address legislative and policy issues that affect Maryland agribusiness.

For more information, contact Jessica Armacost at [410-841-5828](tel:410-841-5828) or by email at: Jessica.Armacost@maryland.gov



Private Pesticide Applicator's Course and Exam

October 20, 2015 - Review Session

October 28, 2015 - Exam

**Ag Service Center, Leonardtown MD
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Anyone who is interested in acquiring their private pesticide applicator's license should plan to attend our next scheduled workshop to be held on October 20th. The optional workshop will help prepare you to

take the exam on October 28th. Please call the office at 301-475-4484 to register and obtain the necessary study materials. The training class will be held at the St. Mary's Agriculture Services Center in Leonardtown, MD from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The actual exam will be held at the same time; same place.



Southern Maryland Farm Transfer and Estate Planning Workshop

**Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2015, 8:30am – 1:00pm
American Legion Hall- Hughesville, Maryland**

Presenters: Joann M. Wood, Esq.; Syd Moreland, CPA; Matt Mudd CPA; Dale Johnson, Farm Management Specialist

Having an up-to-date succession and estate plan is an important part of any farm operation. The workshop covers the formation of a succession and estate plan, tax considerations and what you need to consider before developing the plan starting with family communications. The workshop will include strategies for including non-farming beneficiaries into the family succession and estate plan. The workshop is co-sponsored by the Maryland Crop Insurance Education Program and the Agriculture Law Education Initiative.

Cost: \$10.00. To register call the St Mary's County Extension Office at 301-475-4484 or register online at:

<https://eventbrite.com/event/17659154005/>

8:30 a.m. -- Registration/Coffee

9:00 a.m. – 9:05 a.m. Welcome

9:05 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. **Getting the Conversation Started, Dale Johnson**

9:20 a.m.--10:00 a.m. **Estate Planning for Farmers: Succession Planning Tools and Strategies for Including Non-Farming Beneficiaries, Joann W. Wood**

10:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.--Break

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. **Tax Considerations for Agricultural Estate Planning, Syd Moreland and Matt Mudd**

10:45 a.m. -12:00 p.m. **Panel Discussion on How to Plan to Keep the Farm , Dale, Joann and Syd**

12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch



Nutrient Voucher Training and Pesticide Recertification Training

November 10, 2015

Ag Service Center, Leonardtown MD

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM (Nutrient Voucher)

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM (Pesticide Recertification)

On **November 10, 2015** a **Pesticide Recertification Training class** will be held at the St. Mary's Ag Service Center in Leonardtown. The Recertification class will be held from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Please call to register at 301-475-4484.

St. Mary's Extension Office will also host a **Nutrient Voucher Training** the same evening from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. This class will provide the required credits for Nutrient Voucher holders. If your Nutrient Voucher expires this year, you may consider attending this update class.



Maryland Mid-Atlantic Crop Management School

November 17 - 19, 2015

Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City MD

The **Mid-Atlantic Crop Management School** will be held at the Princess Royale Hotel in Ocean City on **November 17-19th**. Individuals seeking advanced training in soil and water, soil fertility, crop production and pest management will have an opportunity at hands on, intensive sessions that also provide continuing education units (CEU's) for the Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) Program. This is the premiere event for advanced agronomy training in the region. You may also register on line at:

<https://www.psla.umd.edu/extension/md-crops>



Southern Maryland Crops Conference

December 1, 2015

Baden Volunteer Fire Department

Brandywine MD

4:00 PM – 8:30 PM

The Southern Maryland Agents would like to invite everyone to join with our University specialists to have your questions answered about crop production and pest control at the Southern MD Crops Conference on **Tuesday, December 1st, from 4:00PM to 8:30 PM** at the Baden Volunteer Fire Department in Waldorf, MD.

Attendance at this conference will satisfy the requirement for the Private Pesticide Applicator Recertification & Nutrient Management Voucher. Please call the Charles County Extension Office at 301-934-5403 to register. Make plans now to attend.



Loveville Produce Auction Annual Meeting

December 11, 2015

Loveville, MD

9:00 AM



The Loveville Produce Auction invites all interested farmers and buyers to attend the annual meeting on December 11, 2015 starting at 9:00 AM. The meeting will be held at 25120 Dove Point Road. Take Rt. 247 (Loveville Road) to Parsons Mill Rd. Dove Point Lane is ½ mile on left. More information will be forthcoming.





Southern Maryland Hay & Pasture Conference

January 13, 2016
Baden Fire Department, Brandywine, MD
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Make plans to attend the Southern Maryland Hay & Forage Conference on **January 13th**, at the **Baden Firehouse Hall in Brandywine, MD.**

Topics will be presented covering all aspects of hay and pasture production. The programs will address key issues and concerns facing hay and pasture producers.

The conferences also features displays and exhibits by numerous agribusinesses. Attendees will be able to obtain information on seed, fertilizer, equipment, fencing, etc. needed for hay and pasture production and management.

More detailed program information on the Southern Maryland Conference will soon be available on the Web at:

<http://www.psla.umd.edu/extension/maryland-forages-program> or through local county Extension and NRCS/Soil Conservation District offices in MD.

Pesticide recertification and nutrient voucher credits available. Register by calling the St. Mary's County Extension office at 301-475-4484.



Southern Maryland Vegetable & Fruit Production Meeting

February 11, 2016

Make plans to attend the **Southern Maryland Vegetable and Fruit Production Meeting** on **February 11, 2016**, at the Bowie Elks in Anne Arundel County. This meeting will provide Private Applicator Recertification & Nutrient Applicator Voucher Recertification. Speakers will provide IPM updates and present on a broad range of production topics.

Also meeting sponsors will showcase their products and services, and state vegetable organization leaders will be present to recruit and answer your questions. Please attend and make this meeting the best ever.

Register on-line for this event at: <http://extension.umd.edu/anne-arundel-county> or contact the Anne Arundel County Extension Office at 410-222-3906.



12th Annual Small Farm Conference

November 6, 2015 - 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
November 7, 2015 - 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
UMD- Eastern Shore



University of Maryland Extension at UMES hosts the 12th annual Small Farm Conference November 6 and 7 on the UMES campus. This year a change of venue, to the Student Services Center, provides plenty of room for an extraordinary event. What hasn't changed is the mission of the conference, which is to provide a venue for producers, aspiring farmers, landowners and supporters of agriculture to network and learn about opportunities and strategies that promote farm profitability and sustainability as well as successful home gardening. To be clear, beginning and experienced gardeners will feel right at home. "Now entering its 12th year, this conference has become a signature agricultural event on Delmarva," said Berran Rogers, small farm program

coordinator. "It has helped countless participants to either realize their dream of farming or to become more successful at it."

Conference participants can look forward to learning about sheep and goat management, beekeeping, growing specialty crops, home food preservation, how to become more business and market savvy, and legal issues and regulations that affect small farms, among other things. From year to year, conference highlights include networking opportunities, informational sessions, and youth programming, making it a family affair. Children ages 6 to 12 years old are invited to attend with a registered parent.

[Register Here!](#) Or call (410) 651-6070/6210

[More Information Here!](#)



MPT Announces Third Season of MD Farm & Harvest

Maryland Public Television's popular original series Maryland Farm & Harvest has been renewed for a third season starting in November 2015. The Emmy®-nominated series puts a human face on Maryland's agriculture industry, telling the stories of the people who grow the state's food and fiber. The series chronicles the successes and the challenges that local farmers face working in the state's number one industry. Last season Maryland Farm & Harvest featured more than 25 farms in counties across Maryland, from a solar-powered poultry farm in Wicomico to a popular corn maze in Prince George's to a local maple syrup maker in Garrett. Joanne Clendining, who earned an Emmy® from the National Capital Chesapeake Bay Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for her work as the program host, will return as the host of season 3. The series airs on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. on MPT-HD and is rebroadcast on Thursdays at 11:30 p.m. and Sundays at 6 a.m. Each show will also re-air on MPT's secondary channel, MPT2, on Fridays at 6 p.m. The Maryland Department of Agriculture is MPT's co-production partner for Maryland Farm & Harvest. For more information visit mpt.org/farm. Source: Maryland Public Television



Changes to Worker Protection Standards Environmental Protection Agency

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced increased protections for the nation's two million agricultural workers and their families. Each year, thousands of potentially preventable pesticide exposure incidents are reported that lead to sick days, lost wages and medical bills but with changes to the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard the risk of injury or illness resulting from contact with pesticides on farms and in forests, nurseries and greenhouses can be reduced. The revisions to the Worker Protection Standard cover many different areas. The major revisions include:

- Annual mandatory training to inform farmworkers on the required protections. This increases the likelihood that protections will be followed. Currently, training is only once every 5 years.
- Expanded training includes instructions to reduce take-home exposure from pesticides on work clothing and other safety topics.
- First-time ever minimum age requirement: Children under 18 are prohibited from handling pesticides.
- Expanded mandatory posting of no-entry signs for the most hazardous pesticides. The signs prohibit entry into pesticide-treated fields until residues decline to a safe level.
- New no-entry application-exclusion zones up to 100 feet surrounding pesticide application equipment will protect workers and others from exposure to pesticide overspray.
- Requirement to provide more than one way for farmworkers and their representatives to gain access to pesticide application information and safety data sheets - centrally-posted, or by requesting records.
- Mandatory record-keeping to improve states' ability to follow up on pesticide violations and enforce compliance. Records of application-specific pesticide information, as well as farmworker training, must be kept for two years.
- Anti-retaliation provisions are comparable to Department of Labor's (DOL).
- Changes in personal protective equipment will be consistent with DOL's standards for ensuring

respirators are effective, including fit test, medical evaluation and training.

- Specific amounts of water to be used for routine washing, emergency eye flushing and other decontamination, including eye wash systems for handlers at pesticide mixing/loading sites.
- Continue the exemption for farm owners and their immediate families with an expanded definition of immediate family.

Learn more about the updates standard on EPA's website at <http://www2.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/revisions-worker-protection-standard>

A chart comparing the new regulation to existing regulations is available here; <http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-09/documents/comparison-chart-wps.pdf>



Agronomic Crop Insect Update
Joanne Whalen, DE Extension IPM
Specialist
jwhalen@udel.edu

Alfalfa and Grass Hay Crops

Continue to watch for defoliators in grass hay crops and alfalfa. We continue to see economic levels in an occasional field. Significant damage can occur in grass hay fields from true armyworm and fall armyworm. It is important to catch populations before significant damage has occurred and when larvae are small. In addition to checking labels for rates, be sure to check for all restrictions, including, but not limited to, comments on control under high populations and size of larvae; days to harvest and forage/silage restrictions. No thresholds are available; however, controls should be applied before significant defoliation occurs.

Small Grains

As you make plans to plant small grains, you need to remember that Hessian fly can still be a problem. Since the fly survives as puparia ("flax seeds") in wheat stubble through the summer, you should still consider this pest as you make plans to plant small grains. Although damage in our area has generally been the result of spring infestations, we can see damage in the fall. Plants attacked in the spring have shortened and weakened stems that may eventually break just above the first or second node, causing

plants to lodge near harvest. Plants attacked in the fall at the one-leaf stage may be killed outright. Wheat attacked later in the fall will be severely stunted, with the first tillers killed and plant growth delayed. Plants infested in the fall can be recognized by their darker than normal bluish coloration and leaves with unusually broad blades. The following combinations of strategies are needed to reduce problems from Hessian fly:

- Completely plowing under infested wheat stubble to prevent flies from emerging.
- Avoid planting wheat into last season's wheat stubble, especially if it was infested with Hessian fly.
- Avoid planting wheat next to last season's wheat fields—the most serious infestations can occur when wheat is early planted into wheat stubble or into fields next to wheat stubble.
- Eliminate volunteer wheat before planting to prevent early egg-laying. Do not use wheat as a fall cover crop near fields with infestations.
- Plant after the fly-free date.
- Plant resistant varieties. You should look for varieties that have resistance to Biotype L. You will need to check with your seed dealers to identify varieties that our adapted our area.

The following link from Alabama provides additional information on Hessian Fly Management (<http://www.aces.edu/dept/grain/HessianFly.php>)



gg59799501 www.gograph.com



Penn State Extension

Tobacco Mosaic Virus (TMV)

Tobacco mosaic virus (TMV) is named for one of the first plants in which it was found in the 1800s. However, it can infect well over 350 different species of plants.

TMV is made up of a piece of nucleic acid (ribonucleic acid; RNA) and a surrounding protein coat. The complete virus is a submicroscopic, rigid, rod-shaped particle. Once inside the plant cell, the protein coat falls away and nucleic acid portion directs the plant cell to produce more virus nucleic acid and virus protein, disrupting the normal activity of the cell. TMV can multiply only inside a living cell but it can survive in a dormant state in dead tissue, retaining its ability to infect growing plants for years after the infected plant part died. Most other viruses die when the plant tissue dies. The most important way that TMV can be spread from plant to plant is on workers' hands, clothing or on tools. This is called 'mechanical' transmission. When plants are handled, the tiny leaf hairs and some of the outer cells inevitably are damaged slightly and leak sap onto tools, hands, and clothing. If the sap contains TMV, it can be introduced into other plants when those come in contact with this sap. Sucking insects such as aphids do not spread TMV. Chewing insects such as grasshoppers and caterpillars occasionally spread the virus but are usually not important in spread. Vegetative propagation perpetuates TMV and other virus diseases. Cuttings taken from an infected plant usually are infected even if no symptoms are immediately exhibited by the cutting. The virus particles are found in all parts of the plant except the few cells at the tips of the growing points. Infected stock plants should be discarded immediately.

TMV can also survive outside the plant in sap that has dried on tools and other surfaces. If a TMV plant is handled and then you open a door with that hand, you have now put TMV on the door handle. The next person to open the door can pick up the TMV and spread it to any plant that they touch. Tobacco products, particularly those containing air-cured tobacco, may carry TMV. Flue-cured tobacco, used in making cigarettes, is heated repeatedly during its processing, thereby inactivating most if not all TMV. When tobacco products are handled or kept in

pockets, hands and clothing can become contaminated with TMV and be a source of virus. TMV is NOT spread in the smoke of burning tobacco. Symptoms vary with the species of plant infected and the environmental conditions. In some cases environmental conditions bring out symptoms while other conditions mask or hide symptoms. Symptoms associated with TMV infections:

- stunting
- mosaic pattern of light and dark green (or yellow and green) on the leaves
- malformation of leaves or growing points
- yellow streaking of leaves (especially monocots)
- yellow spotting on leaves
- distinct yellowing only of veins

Some of the above symptoms can also be caused by high temperature, insect feeding, growth regulators, herbicides, mineral deficiencies, and mineral excesses. TMV diseases cannot be diagnosed on the basis of symptoms alone

Managing TMV

No chemicals cure a virus-infected plant.

- Purchase virus-free plants.
- Remove all weeds since these may harbor TMV.
- Remove all crop debris from benches and the greenhouse structure.
- Set aside plants with the above symptoms and obtain a diagnosis.
- Discard infected plants.
- Disinfest tools by placing them in disinfectant for at least 10 min. Rinse thoroughly with tap water. Disinfest door handles and other greenhouse structures that may have become contaminated by wiping thoroughly with one of these materials.
- Propagate plants via seed rather than vegetatively.
- Thoroughly wash hands after handling tobacco products or TMV-infected plants.
- Do not keep tobacco products in the pockets of clothing worn into the greenhouse. Launder greenhouse work clothes regularly.





Fall Control of Perennial Weeds

Mark VanGessel, DE Extension Weed Specialist
mjv@udel.edu

Fall is often the best time and the most convenient time to treat most perennial weeds because it is the time that plants are best able to move the herbicide to the roots where it will do the most good. When considering fall weed control the emphasis should be on what the patch of weeds will look like next spring or summer not the amount of dead stems this fall. Also, it is important to consider that a fall application will not eradicate a stand of perennial weeds; the fall application will reduce the stand size or the stand vigor. Fall application of glyphosate is the most flexible treatment for most perennial weeds such as bermuda grass, Canada thistle, common milkweed, common pokeweed, dock, hemp dogbane, horsenettle and johnson grass. Rates of 1 to 1.25 lb. acid per acre are consistently the most economical (or about 1.5X the normal use rate for annual weeds). Dicamba (Banvel) at 2 to 4 pints is also labeled for artichoke, bindweeds, dock, hemp dogbane, horsenettle, milkweeds, pokeweed or Canada thistle. Planting small grains must be delayed after dicamba application 20 days per pint of dicamba applied. Fall herbicide applications should be made to actively growing plants. It is best to allow plants to recover after harvest and to spray prior to mowing the corn stalks. Allow 10 to 14 days after treatment before disturbing the treated plants. If fall applications are delayed, remember weed species differ in their sensitivity to frost; some are easily killed by frost (i.e. horsenettle) others can withstand relatively heavy frosts. Check the weeds prior to application to be sure they are actively growing.



Black Shank Fungicide/Variety Trial-Preliminary Results

Ben Beale

In the last 5 years, there has been an increase in the occurrence of soil borne diseases, most importantly Black Shank (*Phytophthora parasitica*); Sore Shin (*Rhizoctonia spp.*) and Fusarium Wilt (*Fusarium oxysporum f.sp. nicotianae*). The incidence of both

Fusarium Wilt and Sore Shin in the region has been sporadic with Type 31 cultivars. Historically, Type 32 tobacco and the predominantly grown MD 609 cultivar offered excellent resistance to Black Shank, and thus this disease was rarely seen in Maryland. With the transition to Burley cultivars with less robust resistance, Black Shank is once again a significant production issue. A comprehensive management strategy should be employed by growers to limit the incidence and spread of the disease. Black shank prevention and management techniques include cultural practices, rotation, chemical management as well as using more resistant varieties. A demonstration/research trial was conducted in Mechanicsville, MD on a farm known to have historically high levels of black shank.

The trial included:

- Traditional chemistry (Ridomil Gold)
- New fungicide chemistry (Presidio)
- Variety Resistance particularly to Race 1.

Variety Treatment

- **KT 209LC:** Medium to late maturing variety with a black shank rating of 10 for Race 0 and 8 for Race 1
- **KY 14xL8LC:** Early maturing variety with a black shank rating of 10 for Race 0 and 0 for Race 1

Fungicide Treatments:

- **Control:** No fungicides applied
- **RG plus RG:** Ridomil Gold at transplanting followed by Ridomil Gold at layby
- **RG plus RG plus RG:** Ridomil Gold at transplanting followed by Ridomil Gold at first cultivation followed by Ridomil Gold at layby
- **Presidio:** Presidio at transplanting
- **Presidio plus RG:** Presidio at transplanting followed by Ridomil Gold at layby
- **Presidio + RG + Presidio:** Presidio at transplanting followed by Ridomil Gold at first cultivation followed by Presidio at layby

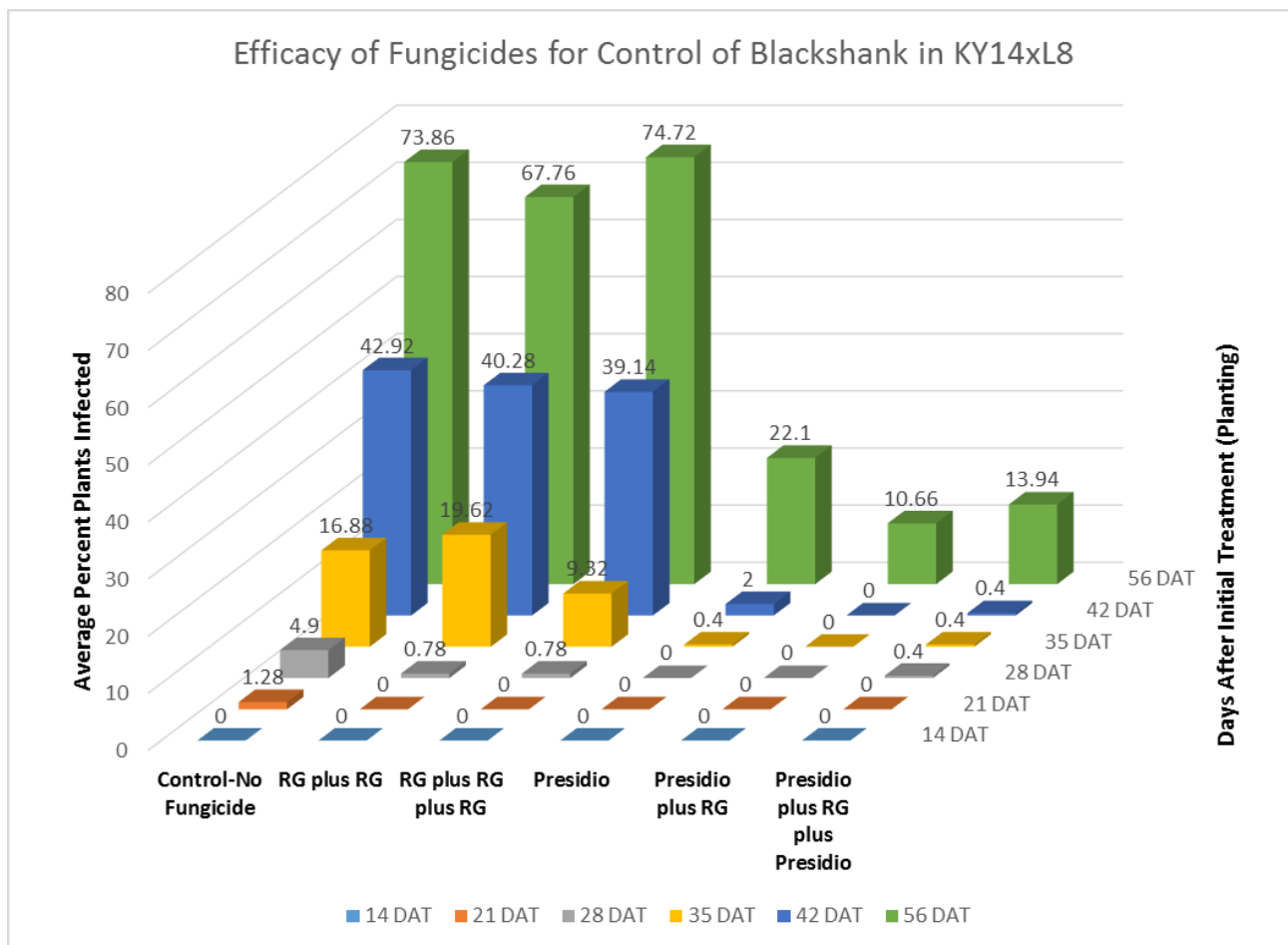
Application Rates:

- **Presidio:** Applied at 4 ounces per acre.
- **Ridomil Gold:** Applied at 8 ounces per acre at transplanting and 16 ounces per acre at first cultivation and layby.

Results and Conclusions

First year data indicate Presidio reduced the incidence of black shank significantly when compared to Ridomil or no fungicide treatment in the susceptible variety KY14xL8 plots. Results also

indicate that varietal resistance is a key disease management strategy. The KT 209LC variety did not exhibit any black shank symptoms regardless of fungicide treatment. Growers with a history of Black Shank should consider the use of a variety with resistance to black shank Race 0 and 1, as well as utilizing the fungicide Presidio as part of their overall disease management strategy.



| Average Percentage of Plants with Black Shank KY14 L8 | | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Treatment | 14 DAT | 21 DAT | 28 DAT | 35 DAT | 42 DAT | 56 DAT |
| Control-No Fungicide | 0 A | 1.28 A | 4.9 A | 16.88 A | 42.92 A | 73.86 A |
| RG plus RG | 0 A | 0 A | 0.78 AB | 19.62 A | 40.28 A | 67.76 A |
| RG plus RG plus RG | 0 A | 0 A | 0.78 AB | 9.32 A | 39.14 A | 74.72 A |
| Presidio | 0 A | 0 A | 0 B | 0.4 B | 2 B | 22.1 B |
| Presidio plus RG | 0 A | 0 A | 0 B | 0 B | 0 B | 10.66 B |
| Presidio plus RG plus Presidio | 0 A | 0 A | 0.4 B | 0.4 B | 0.4 B | 13.94 B |

Percentages followed by different letters within a treatment date are significantly different using Tukeys-Kramer HSD test (P<.05)





Nutrient Management Update Fall 2015

Now is the perfect time to update your Nutrient Management Plan for the next cropping season! It is important to note that fall seeded crop recommendations must be included in your plan. These include fields that are enrolled in the Maryland Cover Crop Program. If you are making a decision about applying Nitrogen in the fall for Wheat or Barley, we can help! A fall nitrate test can be conducted following crop harvest to determine how much Nitrate is left over from the previous crop. This test, performed here at our office, can give you the information you need to determine whether or not you should apply Nitrogen in the fall on your small grain. Samples for the fall nitrate test should be taken at an 8" depth and dried quickly. Please call for more information and to schedule your fall nitrate test.

Below is an abbreviated list of important items that will need to be addressed in order to update your plan for the next cropping season:

- **Soil tests** (less than three years old)
 - Pastures must be sampled as well, even if no nutrients are applied.
- **Manure samples** (less than 1 year old)
 - Required every year that manure is spread
- **Livestock information**
 - Type of animals, average weight, confinement periods, and amount of bedding material.
- **Field histories & Intended Crop Rotation**
 - Multiple cropping scenarios can be planned for!
- **Yield Goals**
 - Should be developed based on prior yield records
- **Farm Maps**
 - Note any changes, bring maps of new farming properties

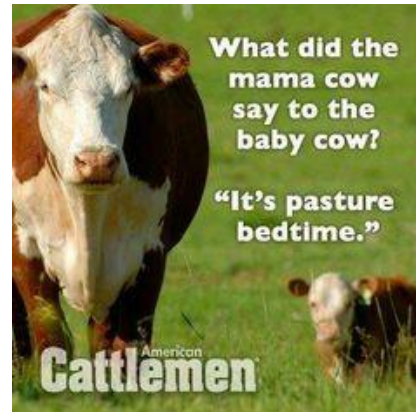
Most farm operations should have an updated plan completed every year. If you are ready to have your plan updated, please give me a call at (301)-475-4480 to schedule an appointment.

I look forward to working with you!

Nicole Fennelly
Nutrient Management Advisor



On the Lighter Side...



All the best for a wonderful Fall Season!

Benjamin E. Beale, Extension Educator
UME – St. Mary's County
Agriculture & Natural Resources

Nicole Fennelly, Nutrient Mgmt. Advisor
UME – St. Mary's County
Agriculture & Natural Resources

Jamie Fleming, Administrative Asst. II
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UME- St. Mary's County

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS