

# WEEKLY CROP UPDATE



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE  
COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION

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## Vegetable Crops

### Vegetable Crop Insect Scouting

David Owens, *Extension Entomologist*,  
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#### **Cucurbits**

Continue scouting for cucumber beetle, especially in recently planted fields with small plants where defoliation can cause more significant injury. Also scout for melon aphids on any fields that have not been previously treated with a neonicotinoid, either in the drip or as a transplant tray treatment. Occasionally melon aphids build up to such large numbers that they cause leaf cupping and severe stunting, to mention nothing of viruses.

Begin scouting for two spotted spider mites, particularly along field edges that border weedy areas such as field ditches, center pivot points, old cemeteries etc.

#### **Eggplant and Tomato**

Be on the lookout for both flea beetle damage on young plants and Colorado potato beetle damage on older plants. Eggplant is particularly susceptible to flea beetle defoliation, fortunately they are fairly easy to manage. Flea beetle thresholds are 2 beetles per plant on small plants <3", going up to 8 beetles per plant when plants are larger than 6". Take weather patterns into consideration, as cooler, cloudy weather is going to slow the plants down.

#### **Snap Beans**

Scout any snap beans that did not have an insecticide seed treatment and were planted during last week's cool, overcast weather for signs of seedcorn maggot damage. Compromised plants will be stunted, have small unifoliate leaves, may be missing their unifoliate giving the plant a 'snake head' appearance, or plants may be wilting.

#### **Potato**

Scout potato for Colorado potato beetle, particularly with the recent warm weather which allows beetles to fly from overwintering sites into new plantings. Thresholds are 1 adult or 4 small larvae per stem. Examine 50 stems throughout the field. Small but heavy infestations may occur near field edges which could be spot treated if necessary.

Begin sweeping for potato leafhopper.

**Variety Effects on Early Sweet Corn Vigor**  
*Emmalea Ernest, Extension Fruit & Vegetable Specialist; [emmalea@udel.edu](mailto:emmalea@udel.edu)*

At this point in the season stand and vigor issues are readily apparent in early sweet corn plantings. Good stand establishment is important for fresh market sweet corn since generally each plant yields only one marketable ear. Plantings with poor stands will have reduced yields. Low plant vigor can also reduce marketable yield or delay harvest. This year I am trialing 18 white supersweet sweet corn varieties at two planting dates: April 17 and May 23. Last week we collected data on emergence and plant height in the April 17<sup>th</sup> trial and there are notable differences between varieties (Figure 1, Table 1) in emergence and vigor (plant height). These differences are likely the result of differences in variety sensitivity to cold soils but could also be impacted by seed quality.

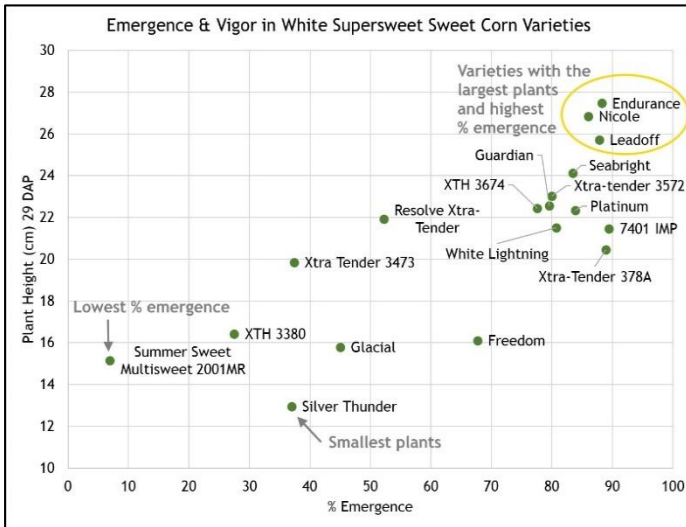


**Figure 1.** Emergence and vigor was good in Endurance (top) compared to Summer Sweet Multisweet 2001MR (bottom)

**Table 1.** Percent emergence and plant height for white supersweet corn varieties planted on April 17, 2024.

Variety	% Emergence	Plant Ht (cm)
7401 IMP	89.5 a	21.5 def
Xtra-Tender 378A	88.9 ab	20.5 ef
Endurance	88.3 abc	27.5 a
Leadoff	87.9 abc	25.7 ab
Nicole	86.1 abcd	26.9 a
Platinum	83.9 bcde	22.4 cde
Seabright	83.5 cde	24.1 bc
White Lightning	80.7 def	21.5 def
Xtra-tender 3572	80.0 ef	23.0 cd
Guardian	79.6 ef	22.6 cd
XTH 3674	77.6 f	22.5 cd
Freedom	67.7 g	16.1 g
Resolve Xtra-Tender	52.2 h	21.9 de
Glacial	45.1 i	15.8 g
Xtra Tender 3473	37.4 j	19.9 f
Silver Thunder	37.0 j	13.0 h
XTH 3380	27.5 k	16.4 g
Summer Sweet Multisweet 2001MR	6.9 l	15.2 g
	<i>p-value</i> <0.0001	<0.0001
	C.V. 10.1	21.0

The best emergence and vigor were observed in Endurance, Nicole and Leadoff (Figure 2.) Other varieties with good emergence and vigor were Seabright, Xtra-Tender 3572, Platinum, Guardian, 7401 IMP, Xtra-Tender 378A and White Lightning. The varieties SSM 2001 MR had the lowest emergence and plants were small. XTH 3380, Silver Thunder and Glacial also had low emergence and vigor. Silver Thunder had the smallest plants out of all the varieties. Freedom had 70% emergence, but plants were small. As I analyze the data from this year’s trials, I will be looking for correlation between early vigor and yield as well as the expected correlation between stand and yield.



**Figure 2.** Percent emergence and plant height 29 days after planting in 18 white supersweet corn varieties planted on April 17, 2024.

## Fruit Crops

### Fruit Crop Insect Scouting

David Owens, *Extension Entomologist*,  
[owensd@udel.edu](mailto:owensd@udel.edu)

#### Tree Fruit

White peach scale crawlers should be active or will soon be active. To scout, place black electrical tape sticky side up around branches with scale on them. Crawlers will appear as small yellowish spots on the tape.

### Orange Rust a Bigger Problem than Usual this Year in Brambles

Jerry Brust, *IPM Vegetable Specialist, University of Maryland*; [jbrust@umd.edu](mailto:jbrust@umd.edu)

This has been a soggy May. With overcast skies and drizzle almost every day along with cooler than normal temperatures. This type of weather is great for foliar disease problems such as botrytis, but also for a disease called orange rust in brambles. Orange rust begins to appear a few weeks after plant emergence with the lower leaf surfaces becoming covered with blister-like masses of orange aeciospores (Figure 1). The disease is caused by two fungal pathogens that cause systemic infection throughout the

blackberry. Infection takes place when it has been wet for more than 12 hours in a day and temperatures are between 43° F and 72° F. The fungus cannot infect if it is hot (85° F) or very dry.

While the telltale sign of this disease are bright orange pustules on the undersides of leaves other symptoms of infection include spindly, stunted, weak shoots that emerge from floricanes, chlorotic misshapen leaves and multiple spindly shoots growing from root buds. Sources of orange rust in established plantings often come from wild brambles along wooded edges, so if you have an established planting and see orange rust be sure to scout the wooded edges along your plantings to identify a possible wild source. There are two forms of orange rust, the one on black raspberry is caused by *Arthuriomyces peckianus*, while the form commonly found on blackberry is *Gymnoconia nitens*. All varieties of black raspberry and many varieties of erect blackberries are susceptible. Red raspberries are immune to orange rust.

Damage from orange rust can be significant. Even though infected plants seldom die, they are weakened and do not produce quality fruit. Consequently, they represent an almost total loss in yield. However, the good news is that the disease is usually sporadic, which helps growers to manage its spread. Rust overwinters on infected leaves on the soil surface and on old canes, so if rust gets established in your field, it will likely persist at low levels through the life of the planting. There are two periods of infection that are important for control, 3-4 weeks in the spring, around the time of shoot emergence, after the last frost, and about 3-6 weeks in the fall, from the time when primocane growth slows until first frost.

Since orange rust is a systemic fungal disease, management and control is mainly through removing infected plants entirely, including the roots. Once infected, a plant cannot be cured. Remove infected plants as soon as they appear in the spring before they release spores. Remove infected wild *Rubus* plants in the vicinity of your planting (these plants will show the orange pustules most strikingly). Any management practice that encourages air circulation within

the canopy such as thinning canes within the row, removing floricanes immediately after harvest and weed management will aid in disease control by reducing the duration of leaf wetness. While using fungicides will not help with already infected plants, they will help protect other neighboring plants from initial infection. Fungicides should be applied when the orange pustules are first seen, preferably before they release spores. If the field has a history of orange rust, sprays should be started before blisters appear. The best fungicide options are Rally (myclobutanil) and Tilt (propiconazole). Apply on a 10 to 14-day schedule - use the shorter interval in wet weather.

*Apache* is a cultivar that is considered to be resistant, or at least tolerant to orange rust, but of late this may not be the case. Other cultivars that have historically had a good tolerance include *Cherokee*, *Cheyenne*, *Comanche*, *Ouachita*, and *Osage*.

Figure 1. Orange pustules on the underside of bramble leaves indicating infection with Orange rust.



Resources: *Cassandra Swett, Extension Specialist - Berry Pathology*,

## Agronomic Crops

### Agronomic Crop Insect Scouting

*David Owens, Extension Entomologist*,  
[owensd@udel.edu](mailto:owensd@udel.edu)

#### **Alfalfa**

Begin scouting for potato leafhopper. There's an excellent threshold table borrowed from Penn State Extension on the alfalfa insect control sheet:

[https://www.udel.edu/content/dam/udelImage/s/canr/pdfs/extension/sustainable-agriculture/pest-management/Insect Control in Alfalfa - 2023.pdf](https://www.udel.edu/content/dam/udelImage/s/canr/pdfs/extension/sustainable-agriculture/pest-management/Insect%20Control%20in%20Alfalfa%202023.pdf). Thresholds vary tremendously depending on how tall the alfalfa is. Pyrethroids do a good job on potato leafhopper.

#### **Small Grains**

A report came in of some localized low level armyworm activity in wheat. Armyworm thresholds are 3-5 per square foot. Examine residue and look for frass. All pyrethroids except Mustang Maxx have a 30-day PHI.

#### **Field Corn**

Scout seedling corn for cutworm injury. A second report of cutworm damage came in this week. Pay special attention to fields in which weeds or cover crop were terminated late and close to planting. Cutworms hide during the day in burrows in the soil, coming out at night to feed. Small cutworms will leave symmetrical, parallel holes in the leaf blade, while larger cutworms will cut and partially drag plants under the soil. Thresholds are 3-5% cut plants and larvae are present.

This week's warm, sunny weather should have allowed corn to resume growth, and corn may quickly outgrow slug injury. When scouting, look at the condition of the whorl leaf, if it is not being fed upon or only slightly, the plants should continue progressing.

#### **Soybean**

Scout for slug and seedcorn maggot damage to the stand. Generally, I think of Memorial Day as the turning point for both in which they are less likely to cause injury.

Other defoliators may be active, such as Grasshoppers, cloverworm, and bean leaf beetle. Defoliation thresholds are conservative at 30% of the entire canopy.

#### **Early Season Moth Activity**

Many thanks to Joanne Whalen and David Armentrout at UMD for assistance with monitoring pheromone traps.

Location	# of Nights	Total Catch	
		TAW	BCW
Salisbury, MD	7		
Seaford, DE	8	0	10
Sudlersville, MD	7	0	11
Harrington, DE	8	1	51
Smyrna, DE	7	0	0
Middletown, DE	7	0	60

### Small Grains Disease Updates

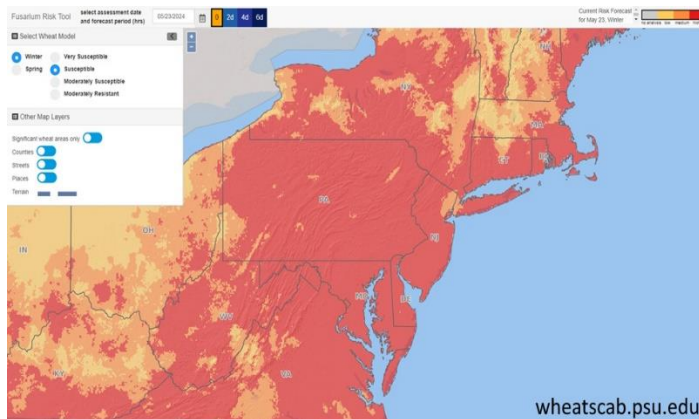
Alyssa K. Betts, *Extension Field Crops*

Pathologist; [akoehler@udel.edu](mailto:akoehler@udel.edu)

Symptoms of Fusarium Head Blight (FHB) have been visible in barley and are now present in wheat. You will be looking for bleached spikelets while the rest of the head is still green (Figure 1). Although the season started at low risk, weather conditions shifted right at the start of flowering and have kept us at high risk over the past 2-3 weeks (Figure 2). Tips for scouting for FHB were shared in the update [last week](#). Now is a good time to walk fields and assess the level of FHB present. If you look at infected kernels, they are usually shriveled and lightweight, commonly called tombstones. The fungus that causes FHB produces a mycotoxin, deoxynivalenol (DON). Symptoms do not automatically mean DON is present and it is possible to have high DON even when symptoms are low. However, if there are a lot of damaged kernels, it is likely DON is present. Grain moisture must fall below 13 percent to stop accumulation of mycotoxin, so DON can continue to increase if harvest is delayed. Mycotoxins are typically most accumulated in the tombstone kernels. With their light weight, they can be separated from healthy grain by increasing fan speed of the combine. If storing it is very important to properly dry grain. DON is stable so drying and storing will not reduce the harvested DON level, but DON concentrations will not continue to increase when grain is properly stored.



**Figure 1.** Wheat head with bleaching and orange sporulation due to Fusarium Head Blight (top), Barley heads with symptoms of FHB (bottom)



**Figure 2.** FHB Risk Model for May 23, 2024

**Italian Ryegrass Continues to be a Bother**  
 Mark VanGessel, Extension Weed Specialist;  
[mjv@udel.edu](mailto:mjv@udel.edu)

A few calls have come in this week about control of Italian/annual ryegrass in corn. In all the situations, glyphosate was used early, and the ryegrass plants did not die, and folks are looking for options. We had a number of fields sampled last year and tested with glyphosate and we did not detect resistance. Most of the cases from this year involved applications at least a few weeks ago when the weather was still cool AND/OR multiple herbicides in the tank at the time of application. I am recommending retreating with glyphosate. The growing conditions are much improved from last month and glyphosate is now performing much better on Italian ryegrass.

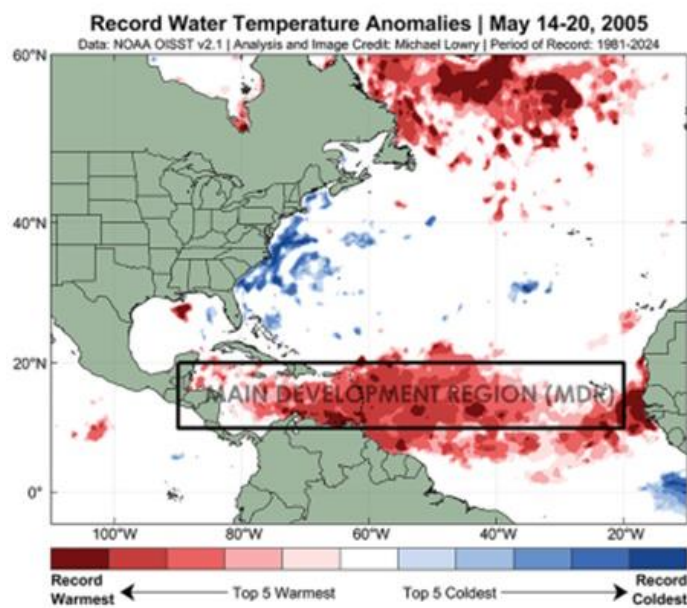
**Hurricane Forecast for 2024**

Jarrod O. Miller, Extension Agronomist,  
[jarrod@udel.edu](mailto:jarrod@udel.edu)

According to the Colorado State Tropical Weather and Climate Research Page (<https://tropical.colostate.edu/forecasting.html>), we can expect a higher-than-normal hurricane season. They are projecting 23 named storms, of which five could be major hurricanes. While we won't know until it happens, there is an expected development of La Nina this summer

and warmer temperatures in the main development region for hurricanes pushing these forecasts (Figure below).

For late August/ early September, you can only watch and plan for a potential earlier harvest of corn, if a storm heads our way. If you are still planting corn, make sure to not plant too shallow for proper root development. For soybeans, lower populations should increase stem thickness. We have not observed differences in soybean (MG4.2) yields planted between 60-180,000 seeds per acre (<https://sites.udel.edu/agronomy/2023/01/27/2022-soybean-yield-response-to-planting-populations-row-spacing-and-irrigation-in-delaware/>)



Temperatures in 2005 and 2024 in the main development region for hurricanes. 2005 was a record hurricane season.

<https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2024/05/wh-at-you-need-to-know-about-record-breaking-heat-in-the-atlantic/>.

## **Monthly Grain Market Outlook**

*Nate Bruce, Farm Business Management Specialist, [nsbruce@udel.edu](mailto:nsbruce@udel.edu)*

Corn prices rallied during the month of May across all futures. The monthly USDA report was very friendly to corn prices. In addition, planting progress in the corn belt started extremely slow due to difficult weather. Corn prices swung in the \$0.10 - \$0.20 range throughout the month. The May rally in corn prices appears to have cooled off as planting continued throughout the month. Depending on local basis levels, this month presented a fantastic opportunity to sell \$5.00+ new corn which should be well above breakeven for most dryland production and close for irrigated production. As planting continues and the production season commences, corn price fluctuations will be driven by weather conditions in the corn belt. Make sure to keep up with the corn market during the month of June. Soybean prices experienced a significant rally during the month of May across all futures. Soybean prices rallied the highest during the month of May on the 7<sup>th</sup>, increasing in a \$0.60 - \$1.00 range across futures. Market prices retreated after the 7<sup>th</sup> but held resistance keeping futures above \$12.00 per bushel. The discrepancy between USDA and CONAB (Brazil's version of USDA) still looms over soybean prices. Both CONAB and USDA adjusted their Brazilian crop estimates; making them closer to each other during the month but still quite far apart. These adjustments have allowed for resistance at \$12.00 across soybean futures. New crop prices have been attractive considering where prices were a month ago, despite a weak local basis. The overall trend in the wheat market during the month of May was up. Prices increased across futures during the month. Whenever a downturn seemed to appear in market prices, bullish news reaffirmed the rally and prices responded. The USDA monthly report was extremely wheat friendly, in addition concerns exist about the Russian wheat crop, the world's number one wheat exporter. May presented a fantastic opportunity to lock in wheat sales considering where the market has been over the course of the year thus far. The real question is whether the uptrend will

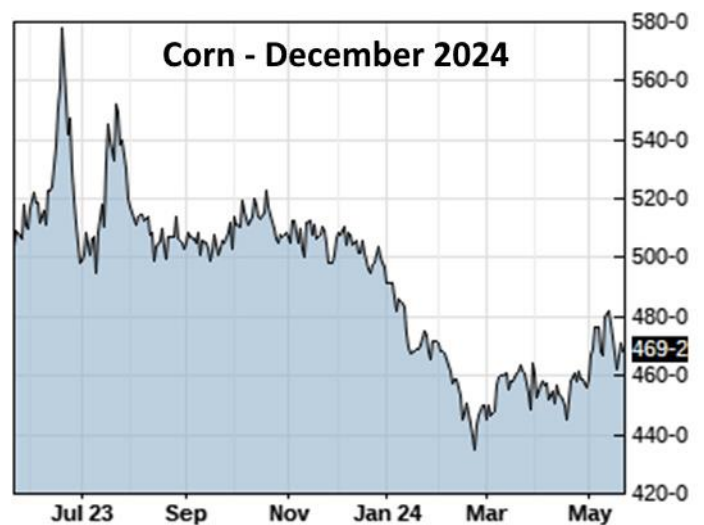
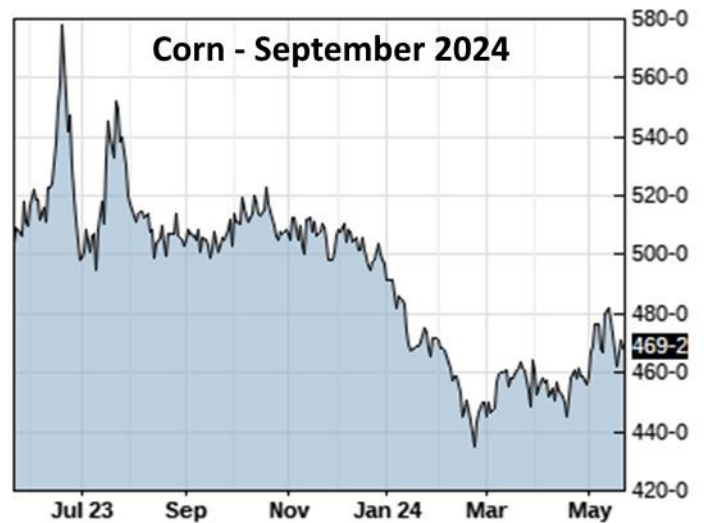
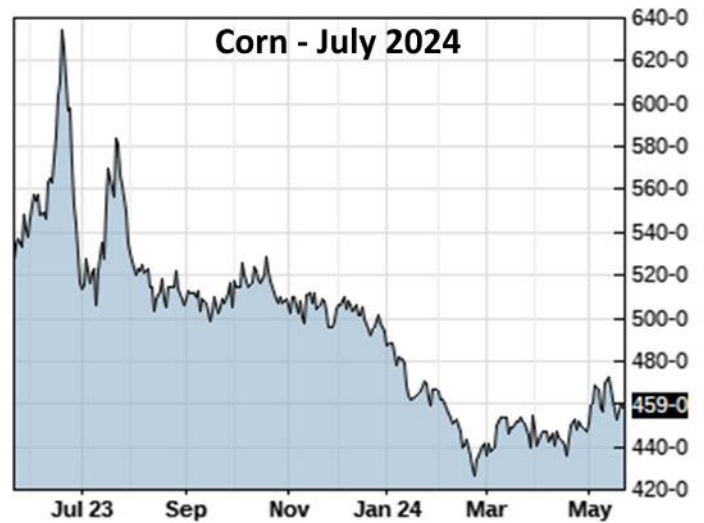
continue into June all the way to harvest time in the Mid-Atlantic region.

The May USDA (World Agriculture Supply and Demand Estimates) WASDE report was published on May 10<sup>th</sup> and represents the beginning of a new marketing year. The report reflects estimated plantings and the numbers within are vastly different than the April WASDE. WASDE estimated increased corn acreage planted, area harvested, feed and residual demand, total import supply, food demand, ethanol demand, and exports. Corn production decreased from the April estimate. Imports remained the same. Ending stocks decreased from 2122 million bushels to 2102 million bushels. The farm season-average price fell from \$4.70 per bushel to \$4.40 per bushel. The estimated yield per acre increased from 177.3 bushels per acre to 181 bushels per acre. The April USDA WASDE estimated increased acres planted, acres harvested, production, crushing demand, export demand, and total residual use demand. Imports and residual supply decreased from the April estimate. Ending stocks increased by 31% from the April estimate from 340 million bushels to 445 million bushels. Estimated yield per acre increased from 50.6 bushels per acre to 52 bushels per acre. The farm season-average price fell from 12.55 per bushel to \$11.20 per bushel. The May USDA WASDE estimated increased wheat acres planted, production, total import supply, food demand, feed and residual demand and supply, and exports. Wheat acres harvested, imports, and seed demand all decreased from the April estimate. Estimated yield per acre decreased from 48.6 bushels per acre to 48.9 bushels per acre. Ending stocks increased by 9.74% from 698 million bushels to 766 million bushels. The farm-season average price dropped significantly from the April estimate from \$7.10 per bushel to \$6.00 per bushel.

USDA and CONAB both released reports in May that tightened the discrepancy between the two on how large the Brazilian soybean crop truly is. CONAB's May report increased its Brazilian soybean crop estimate from 146.5 million tons to 147.6 million tons. USDA lowered its Brazilian soybean crop estimate from 155 million tons to

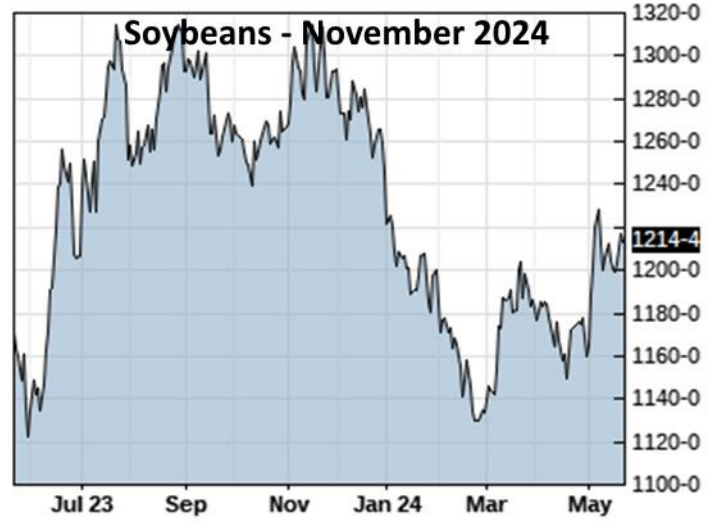
154 million tons. There still is a 6.5-million-ton difference between the two agencies hovering over the market. USDA will release their next report on June 12<sup>th</sup> and CONAB will release their next report the following day on June 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be interesting to see if this difference tightens again and how it will impact markets. The Brazilian second corn crop (safrinha) saw ample rain and growing conditions, despite 10% less acres being planted in Brazil's largest commodity crop producing region Mato Grosso. CONAB increased the corn estimate from 110.9 million tons to 111.6 million tons. Concerns about the Russian wheat crop has sent market prices soaring in the past few weeks. SovEcon, a Black Sea research firm, dropped the Russian wheat forecast from 93 million tons to 86.7 million tons. The wheat crop was on pace to match the 92.8 million tons produced last year, allowing Russia to dominate the international market, however poor weather such as frost and dry growing conditions has had an impact on this year's crop. Ukrainian grain exports are expected to decline this marketing year as the country's ministry of agriculture cut their estimate for combined grain and oilseed harvest from 90 million tons to 81.57 million tons. Despite the war, Ukrainian grain has continued to find its way into the international marketplace, despite Russian attacks on infrastructure. The price shocks of these attacks have diminished and seem to be built into market prices at this point in the conflict.

## Corn Futures



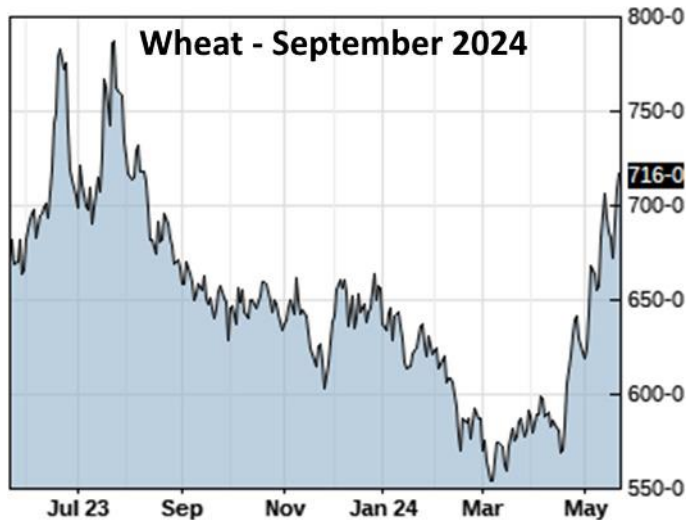


## Soybean Futures



## Wheat Futures





downtime and ensure seamless operation. To ensure continuous connectivity this operation must be performed by April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### Thoughts on Premixes

Mark VanGessel, Extension Weed Specialist;  
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Prepackaged herbicides, those that contain multiple active ingredients in the same container, are a staple of the industry. It's convenient to only have one container rather than 3 or 4. From a manufacturing standpoint the products can be formulated specifically to ensure multiple herbicides mix well and stay in solution.

There are a lot of issues with premixes. First is the right products. Let's face it, no agrichemical company is blending a mixture for the Delmarva region. That means some of the products you may hear about do not fit our region because of our soil types, our crop rotations, or our weed spectrum. Or they contain active ingredients that are not bringing much in terms of weed control for use because we don't have specific species. Some of these premixes may have as many as four different active ingredients, but in reality, you may only need two or three of them; and it stands to reason that there is a cost for each of those products, so you might be paying for something you don't need.

One of the most common issues we face is that the ratio of the products may not be correct for our area. An incorrect ratio means that the individual herbicides are not applied at the correct rate. This often means we should be "spiking" a premix, adding additional herbicide to a prepackaged mixture to achieve the correct ratio.

A standard recommendation for clomazone (Command) and ethalfuralin (Curbit) for pumpkins and melons is 8 fl oz of Command and 40 to 48 fl oz of Curbit. Using 3pts of Strategy provides 8fl oz of Command but only 25 fl oz of Curbit. Using Strategy to achieve the correct

## General

### GPS Satellite Outage Alert

#### WAAS Satellite GPS Corrections

If your operation relies on Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) signal, be prepared for planned satellite outages during spring seeding season. The current WAAS - PRN 133 satellite will be out of service from May 13<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

During that time, WAAS satellite 135 will be operational so that producers can still use WAAS signals.

We highly recommend updating your connectivity setting to prevent potential

rate of Curbit results in way too much Command. So, we recommend 3pts of Strategy but “spiking” an additional 14 fl oz of Curbit to get the total amount to 40 fl oz.

The hidden risk of these premixes delivering low rates of specific active ingredients is selecting for herbicide resistance. examine the label of these premixes and determine if each component is at the proper rate, meaning if you were using the product by itself what rate would you use. This can be a challenge to figure out, so we have tables in our weed management sections breaking down the individual herbicides and their use rates.

These tables can be found at:

Weed Control in Field Crops - Virginia Tech ENTO-566-E

[https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs\\_ext\\_vt\\_edu/456/456-016/ENTO-566-E.pdf](https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/456/456-016/ENTO-566-E.pdf)

- This is a joint effort with Virginia Tech, Univ MD, Univ. of WV, Univ. DE, Rutgers Univ. and Penn State. This is the same information in the Penn State Publication, but this version is free

Weed Management for Vegetables - (Table E-6 in Mid-Atlantic Commercial Vegetable Production Recommendations)

[www.udel.edu/content/dam/udelImages/canr/pdfs/extension/sustainable-agriculture/commercial-veg-recommendations/2024-sectione-new.pdf](http://www.udel.edu/content/dam/udelImages/canr/pdfs/extension/sustainable-agriculture/commercial-veg-recommendations/2024-sectione-new.pdf)

### New Website Discussing Herbicide Resistance From GROWiwm.org

*Mark VanGessel, Extension Weed Specialist;*  
[mjv@udel.edu](mailto:mjv@udel.edu)

New website discussing Herbicide Resistance from GROWiwm.org

Sometimes, to solve a complex problem like herbicide resistance, you have to go back to the beginning and master the basics. That’s the aim of GROW’s newest webpage, a 10-step primer on learning The Basics of Herbicide Resistance (<https://growiwm.org/herbicide-resistance/>). It not only covers what herbicide resistance is and how it develops, but also how to identify it, and what future threats might be evolving, such as metabolic resistance.

The new GROW page presents a comprehensive overview of herbicide resistance through a series of boxes, which open up to give the reader detailed answers to 10 fundamental questions on herbicide resistance.

## Guess the Pest! May 17 Answer: Pythium

David Owens, *Extension Entomologist*,  
[owensd@udel.edu](mailto:owensd@udel.edu)

Congratulations to Bob Leiby, Nichole Krambeck, and Chris Burkhart for answering last week's double headers! Now, the question was what was killing off my cantaloupe seedlings. There is a long answer to the 'I forgot to follow up' but strongly suspect Pythium. I was really worried that it might damage an early season cucumber beetle trial. Folks, I accidentally planted seed treated with FI400 and 4 weeks after germination it killed caged cucumber beetles dead as doornails. Oops. I had grand plans for those beetles! Needless to say, I don't have much cucumber beetle activity in my trial field yet.



## Guess the Pest! May 24, 2024

David Owens, *Extension Entomologist*,  
[owensd@udel.edu](mailto:owensd@udel.edu)

This week let's take a moment to admire some of nature's largest and prettiest of creatures. I found this brand-new specimen early in the week. What is it?



# Announcements

## UD Weed Science Field Day

### Note Corrected Date

Wednesday, June 26, 2024 9:00-11:00 a.m.

University of Delaware

Carvel Research and Education Center

16483 County Seat Highway, Georgetown, DE

Event will include:

- herbicide evaluations in corn, soybeans, and vegetables
- integrated weed management trials, focusing on cereal rye for weed suppression
- crop safety evaluation from herbicide treatments

*There is no fee for this event and it is open to all. If you have questions, please contact Mark VanGessel ([mjv@udel.edu](mailto:mjv@udel.edu))*

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## Paraquat Training Webinars

Training is required for anyone who applies, mixes, or handles paraquat. Training certificates need to be updated every three years and since this rule went into effect four years ago, those who participated in training the initial year, need to take it again.

Syngenta is offering webinars for Paraquat Handling certification or re-certification. These sessions are free and are scheduled at 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST on the following dates:

May 20, 2024  
May 21, 2024  
May 28, 2024  
May 30, 2024

*Register online using the link below. Registration requires the following: first and last name, email address, state, and certification license #. This will allow a report to be sent to EPA and to your state for certification credits (if applicable).*

[Paraquat Training Webinar Registration](#)

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## Salinity Affected Lands in Transition (SALT) Conference

June 11 & 12, 2024 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Hyatt Regency, Cambridge, MD

Join us for a two day conference discussing the effects of saltwater intrusion on agricultural fields and forests in the Mid-Atlantic. Sessions will include Field and Crop Responses, Landscape Evolution, Water Management, Soils in Transition, Ghost Forests, and Socio-Economic Issues.

**Register online at:**

<https://www.agroecologylab.com/salt-conference-2024>. Registration closes on June 3.

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## Pre-Exam Training for DE Pesticide Applicators Category 03

Wednesday, June 5, 2024 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Delaware State Fairgrounds, DDA Building,  
Harrington, DE

This event is for anyone wanting to obtain a Category 03 (Ornamentals & Turf) Delaware pesticide applicators license who would like some training prior to taking the exam

**Register online at <https://udel.edu/0012032> Contact John Emerson [jremer@udel.edu](mailto:jremer@udel.edu) if you have questions.**

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## Are you a Corn Farmer? We Want to Pay You to Earn 1 DE Nutrient Management Credit!

Farmers in DE who grow corn and are interested in learning more about in-season nitrogen modeling tools can participate in a 30-minute, farmer-friendly computer simulation. All participants are paid for participation (up to \$150 in a gift card) and earn 1 DE Nutrient Management Credit (1 MD credit also available) for using N model outputs to make management decisions on a virtual farm. Responses are anonymous and personal information will not be shared outside the project team. If you are interested, please fill out this [form](#) and you will be sent instructions by email to participate.

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## **Chance to Win \$50 Amazon Gift Card by Filling Out a Survey about Mental Well-being**

Farmers and ranchers, farm workers, foresters, aquaculture and marine producers and others who live in Delaware Communities and those who work in agriculture related industries are invited to participate in a short survey about mental health and stressors. Your chance of winning the gift card is 1 in 100!

For more information and to participate please visit the anonymous link below. A survey in either English or Spanish is open now through the end of May 2024.

<https://bit.ly/Cultivemos>

Participation in this project is anonymous and is entirely voluntary. You may skip any question that you do not wish to answer, and you may discontinue at any time. Please consider participating in this important Northeast region study. Survey results will help extension educators learn more about these barriers to getting help and what ideas can be shared for reducing the stress farmers, ranchers and growers face.

Participants who complete the survey are eligible to be entered in a drawing for a \$50 Amazon gift card. One person will be selected randomly from each state. *If you have questions about this survey, feel free to contact [Maria Pippidis](#)*

***Weekly Crop Update is compiled and edited by Emmalea Ernest, Extension Fruit & Vegetable Specialist and Drew Harris - Kent Co. Ag Agent***

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