



# Pest Alert

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## JULY 19 VEGNET REPORT

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During the last week, temperatures averaged in the mid to upper 80s at most sites in the region, except for Center with an average of 77 and Rocky Ford with an average of 93. During the last week, rainfall averaged less than 0.60 inches at most sites; however, Rocky Ford received more than 2 inches. A few sites received a trace or no rain last week, and included Fort Morgan, Wray, Champion and Garden City. The upcoming week is forecasted at average to above average moisture and above average temperature at most sites.

Crops should be scouted at least weekly for evidence of early outbreaks or secondary activity of pests. Check with your local consultants and other experts on crop status and the initiation or maintenance of disease protection strategies when either disease is confirmed in the region and/or a disease threat does exist. Remember to rotate fungicide chemistry when possible to avoid selection of fungicide-resistant strains.

#### **DRY BEAN Pests:**

As of July 19, the dry bean crop continues with flowering to early pod phases in the region and there are no reports of rust problems. Bacterial brown spot continues to be a major problem in many parts of eastern Colorado, western Kansas and southwestern Nebraska; and common bacterial blight was confirmed in some light red kidney fields in northeastern Colorado last week. Maintain the copper bactericide program on a 7 – 10 day schedule throughout flowering and early pod fill phases, especially for light red kidney and yellow beans. Ground-rig applications are preferable until row closure; then rely upon aerial sprays (4 – 5 gal of water/A) or chemigation (less than ¼ in of water/A) until the risk of infection is low due to absence of disease and/or persistent hot, dry conditions.

On ground with a history of white mold planted to susceptible, vine-type pintos or great northern, consider application of a white mold fungicide (Topsin, Benomyl) at 100% to full bloom to protect blossoms from becoming colonized by the fungus and initiating white mold infection beneath the plant canopy after row closure. Emphasize irrigation water management to extend intervals between irrigations to reduce excess surface moisture beneath the plant canopy.

### **ONION Pests:**

As of July 19, most transplanted fields continue to approach maturity and harvest. Bacterial diseases like Soft Rot persist in the Front Range area, and Xanthomonas Leaf Blight is showing up in the Arkansas Valley. Once confirmed, fungicides like the EBDCs (Maneb, Mancozeb, Dithane, Penncozeb) tank mixed with copper based bactericides (Kocide, Champ, Nu Cop among others) at full labeled rates have been extremely effective, especially when a non-ionic surfactant is added in sufficient gallonage.

The disease model (PRI = 300, RH = > 95%) suggests that Purple Blotch may occur in some regions in transplanted fields, and now possibly in some seeded fields as well. Continue to scout fields at least once, and preferably twice, a week for early signs of disease in the field or region. Maintain applications of protectant fungicides including the EBDCs, coppers, Bravo and Rovral in high gallonage plus adjuvant for good coverage on a 7 to 10 day interval. Rotate fungicide chemistry every other application.

If Downy Mildew reappears in the region, continue to include EBDCs and/or Ridomil tank mixes in the spray program.

### **POTATO Pests:**

The Early Blight and Late Blight disease models exceeded the threshold earlier this month for many sites in northeastern Colorado, assuming a May 1 up to May 21 emergence date with hours greater than 80 % relative humidity.

Maintain protectant sprays (EBDCs, Bravo, Polyram, Quadris, etc.) on a 5 to 7 day interval for Early Blight. There are still no reports of Late Blight in Colorado or neighboring states, but maintain an aggressive Early Blight fungicide program which will also provide initial protection against the Late Blight pathogen. If Late Blight is detected in your region, incorporate newer chemistry such as Acrobat and others.

Early fields of potatoes are now being desiccated in northeastern Colorado. Thoroughly destroy foliage and potential sources of inoculum which can threaten later maturing fields downwind. (Schwartz)

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Where trade names are used, no discrimination is intended, and no endorsement by the Cooperative Extension Service is implied.

Sincerely,

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