

Department of Plant and Soil Science

Vegetable Press Newsletter

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In This Issue:

- [Mississippi Vegetable Tour](#)
- [Greenhouse Tomato Video](#)
- [New Insecticides for Vegetable Insect Control](#)
- [Stay Ahead of Turnip and Mustard Fungus Diseases](#)
- [Calendar of Coming Events All Over the U.S.](#)
- [Greenhouse Tomato Video Set Order Form](#)

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Mississippi Vegetable Tour

Dr. Richard G. Snyder, Vegetable Specialist

The Mississippi Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association (MFVGA) is sponsoring a vegetable tour in southeast Mississippi.

Mr. Ben Burkett of Petal, MS will be opening his farm to interested growers on Tuesday, June 10. Ben runs the Indian Springs Farmers' Cooperative. Growers visiting his farm, and other area vegetable farms, will be able to see squash, eggplant, cucumbers, peppers, kale, and collards, as well as the packing shed, cooling facilities, and field equipment.

DIRECTIONS: To get to the farm, take Highway 49 to Hattiesburg, then Highway 42 east to Petal. Once in Petal, turn right on Main Street at the first light; at the second light, turn left on Carterville Road. Go 2.2 miles, then turn right on Old River Road. Go 2.7 miles, then turn left on Old Rifle Range Road. Go 2.4 miles to the end of the road. Turn left on Sheeplo Loop. Proceed 0.7 miles and stop at the Piney Grove Masonic Lodge on the left.

Registration will be at 9:30 am on June 10, with the tour starting promptly at 10:00. Lunch will be provided.

If you are interested, please call 892-3731 to get your name on the list for the 1997 MFVGA Vegetable Tour.

Greenhouse Tomato Video

Dr. Richard G. Snyder, Vegetable Specialist

Did you miss the 1997 Greenhouse Tomato Short Course on March 13 & 14? If so, you missed a good one. Growers from all over Mississippi and 14 other states participated in this intensive training on how to grow greenhouse tomatoes.

We had 120 people in attendance from the west coast (California) to the east coast (Rhode Island) with many states in between.

If you want to see what you missed, you can order a copy of the videotapes of the entire program. The 5-tape set costs \$75. To order, send a check (made out to "Greenhouse Videos") along with the application included at the end of this newsletter. Orders must be received by May 15 to be processed.

New Insecticides for Vegetable Insect Control

Dr. J. Pat Harris, Extension Entomologist

There are several new biological and a few new synthetic insecticides available for use on vegetables this coming season. The availability of these products may be limited in some areas of the state. Nevertheless, it may be to your advantage to utilize them in your pest management program if available.

New products include those in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1. New biological insecticides for vegetables.

Biologicals				
Product	Company	Crops	Pests	
Foil BFC	Ecogen	Potatoes, tomatoes, eggplant	Colorado worms	potato beetle,
Novocolor FC	Novo Nodisk	Potatoes, tomatoes, eggplant	Colorado worms	potato beetle,
Agree ae	Ciba	Vegetables	beet	armyworms,
Xen-Tais ae	Abbott	Vegetables	beet	armyworms,
Condor	Ecogen	Vegetables	Worms	
Condor G	Ecogen	Vegetables	Worms	
Cutlass	Ecogen	Vegetables	Worms	
Able WP	Ciba	Vegetables	Worms	
Virus-Spod-X (NPV)	Instar Products	Vegetables	Corn earworms	
Elcar (NPV)	Sandoz	Vegetables	Corn earworms	

Table 2. New chemical insecticides for vegetables.

Product	Company	Crops	Pests	
Admire 2F (soil application only)	Bayer	Peppers, eggplant, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, kale, kohlrabi, mustard greens, rape, lettuce, spinach, potato	aphids, Colorado flea beetle, thrips, whiteflies (sweet potato & silverleaf), leafhoppers,	tomato, broccoli, potato beetle, psyllids
Provado 1.6F	Bayer	potato, eggplant, peppers, tomato, broccoli, Brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, lettuce, mustard greens, spinach	aphids, Colorado potato beetle, leafhoppers, psyllids, whiteflies (sweet potato & silverleaf)	
Baythroid 2	Bayer	carrots, peppers,	cutworms,	

		borer, weevils,	radishes, to garden webworm,	tomatoes loopers, armyworms	leafhopper (beet & yellow striped),	s, thrips, flea beetle
Karate Insecticide	Zeneca	broccoli, cabbage, corn (field, sweet & pop), tomatoes, onion (bulb), garlic, lettuce (head)	A number of pests. (See label)			
Danitol	Valent	tomatoes, sweet corn, cole crops, lettuce & others	A number of pests. (See label)			
Trigard (IGR)	Ciba	peppers, head lettuce, cucurbits, carrots, tomatoes, potatoes	leafminers, flies, beetles			
Aidos Bait	Micro Flo	vegetables	cucumbers &	rootworm beetles		

There may be other new products. However, as you can see, we are obtaining approval of more insecticides for use on vegetables. The products are developed with a high degree of selectivity with minimum impact on the environment. This philosophy fits well into crop management programs, helping meet EPA & USDA projection of increased use of IPM.

One final note, vegetable farmers are using more wettable powder insecticides. This seems to be the formulation of choice because of increase in human safety, ease of winter storage, and minimum phytotoxicity.

NOTE: Refer to individual labels for crop usages and restrictions.

Stay Ahead of Turnip and Mustard Fungus Diseases

Dr. Frank Killebrew, Extension Plant Pathologist

Mustard and turnips, as well as other leafy greens, represent a good source of revenue for commercial vegetable producers, provided they are kept blight-free through a preventive program of disease management. During weather conditions favorable for disease development, fungus diseases can quickly blight an entire planting unless the crop is protected.

The most common disease which affects mustard and turnips is white spot. Symptoms of white spot include circular, gray to brown or almost paper white spots, with slightly darkened margins. At first, these spots are small, about one-eighth inch in diameter. The spots rapidly increase in size and number, and over a period of a week or so, the entire leaf may become blighted. Leaves turn yellow and eventually die.

White spot is more of a problem when free moisture from rain or heavy dew creates conditions favorable for plant infection. Fungus spores produced on residue from earlier crops, some weed species such as wild mustard, and leaves infected within the season, are blown by wind or splashed by rain onto plant parts. Numerous infections originate from these spores and occur during rainy periods in spring and early autumn when temperatures are in the 55 to 65 degree F range.

The key to keeping greens blight-free is to start a control program before white spot, and other fungus diseases, becomes widely distributed. The following measures will help to minimize disease development in your greens.

* Fungicides will protect greens from fungus diseases, provided spray applications are made on a preventive basis. Don't wait until disease symptoms are widespread on your greens before applying a fungicide.

For best results, start a fungicide application program within two to three weeks after plants have emerged and continue through the season. Benlate 50 Wettable Powder is approved for white spot control on turnips. Apply at 14-day intervals, not to exceed three applications. Dilute at the rate of 1/2 tablespoonful per gallon of water.

Kocide DF or WP is also effective for white spot control. Kocide is a copper based fungicide, available in one to two pound containers at many farm and garden supply dealers, and may be applied to mustard, turnips, and other greens, on a 7 to 10 day schedule. Dilute at the rate of 1/2 to 1 tablespoonful per gallon of water.

For higher volume application of either fungicide, refer to product labels for amount per acre.

Other fungicides approved for use on leafy greens may also be available at your local garden supply dealer.

Note: When applying Benlate or Kocide, observe the following waiting periods (days from last application until harvest): Benlate 50 Wettable Powder - 14 days; Kocide DF or WP - 0 days.

* In your next crop, it will pay to rotate to a production area where greens haven't been grown in several years. This is true because the fungi responsible for white spot are carried over from season to season in the soil. It's best to wait about three years before again planting turnips or mustard in such areas.

* Also, for your next crop, it's best not to save seeds from a planting where diseases were prevalent, since they're likely to be contaminated with white spot fungi. Fresh seed would be a wise investment.

Before planting, seed not already coated with a fungicide can be treated as follows:

About one-half cup of seeds can be treated by placing them in an envelope or ziplock type container. Add one-fourth to one-half teaspoonful of captan or thiram directly to the container. Seal and shake gently until the seeds are evenly coated with fungicide. Treated seeds should be planted promptly.

Calendar of Coming Events All Over the U.S.

Dr. Richard G. Snyder, Vegetable Specialist

May 12-14 - Beekeeping Workshop; at Clay Lyle Entomology Complex, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS. Learn how to keep your own hives. There is \$20 registration fee. For information, contact Harry Fulton at (601) 325-3390.

May 19-25 - International Symposium on Growing Media and Hydroponics; at The Cleary International Centre, Windsor, Ontario, Canada. For information, contact Dr. A.P. Papadopoulos at (579) 738-2251.

June 10 - Mississippi Vegetable Tour; at Ben Burkett's farm, Petal, MS. See article in this issue for more information.

June 21-22 - Pacific Northwest Bamboo Agro-forestry Workshop; at Ft. Worden, Port Townsend, Washington. For information, contact Dr. Carol Miles at (360) 740-1295; fax: (360) 740-2792; or email: miles@wsu.edu; or check this web site: <http://www.bamboo.org/abs/PNWWorkshop.html>.

July 18-20 - Annual Southern Greenhouse Vegetable Growers Association Conference and Trade Show; at Sheraton Tyler Hotel, Tyler, Texas. For more information, call Kathy Cooper at (903) 389-2696.

September 14-18 - The Green Industrial Revolution - the Association for the Advancement of Industrial Crops; at Hotel Camino Real, Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico. For information, contact Dr. Thomas Abbott at (309) 681-6533 or fax to (309) 681-6524 or email to abottt@ncaur1.ncaur.gov.

