Agricultural Beet

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Agricultural Department Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative

Deciding When to Finish Spraying CLS Fungicides

It is time to consider the Pre-Harvest Interval (PHI) of the CLS fungicides for main harvest and when or if we should make a final 2024 CLS spray. The PHI's for individual fungicides are on the product label. We also have them listed in the CLS Quicksheet (https://www.smbsc.com/agronomy/AgronomyDefault). It can be difficult to decide when to stop spraying for CLS given it can progress rapidly in warm humid conditions. Conditions like we've been experiencing recently and may see again before Main Harvest. If a field is thoroughly scouted, the progression model below can be used to assist in the decision making process. After rating your field on a 1-9 scale (page 2) use the model below to determine how many weeks it may take for the disease to reach the "Danger Zone". Ideally, fields never reach the Danger Zone or just reach the Danger Zone when you are set to defoliate and harvest. If the Danger Zone is reached early the chances of having economic damage occur in 2024 are high. The model below was developed using only traditional CLS varieties. However, the disease severity in a HCT (CR+) variety should progress at a slower rate. If a field with a HCT variety has a rating of a 2.0 (6 to 12 spots per leaf) or higher, economic damage has been shown to occur as quickly as four weeks, which is about half the rate of the traditional varieties. If you have a HCT variety with a rating higher than a 2.0 today, another fungicide application is warranted if it has been 2 or more weeks since the last application. We would highly encourage one last application (Early September Spray) on traditional varieties given the weather pattern that we are in right now.



Prediction Model for CLS Infection Progression Beyond the Last Day of Spray Coverage

Cercospora leaf Spot Damage Categories



Figure B: Cercospora Loaf Spot Damage Categories