

Squash Bugs (Ward Upham)KSU Extension

Squash bugs are the grey, shield-shaped bugs that feed on squash and pumpkin plants. If you have had problems with these insects in the past, you know that they are almost impossible to control when mature. This is because the squash bugs have a hard body that an insecticide has difficulty penetrating. Thus, spraying when the insects are small is important. Look on the underside of the leaves for cluster of brick-red eggs and small green insects with black legs. These nymphs will eventually become adults, which will lay eggs that will become the second generation. The second generation is often huge and devastating. Therefore, it is important to control as many squash bugs of the first generation as possible.



Because squash bugs feed by sucking juice from the plant, only insecticides that directly contact the insect will work. General use insecticides such as permethrin (Bug-B-Gon Multi-Purpose Garden Dust; Green Thumb Multipurpose Garden and Pet Dust; Bug-No-More Yard and Garden Insect Spray; Eight Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Concentrate; Garden and Farm Insect Control; Lawn & Garden Insect Killer), malathion, and methoxychlor provide control if a direct application is made to young, soft-bodied squash bugs. This means that you MUST spray or dust the underside of the leaves because this is where the insects live.

Grub Control in Lawns (Ward Upham)

If you plan on using a grub preventative on your lawn, the first half of July is a good target date for most products. Preventatives are normally used on areas that have had a history of grub problems.

Traditional grub insecticides such as Dylox or carbaryl (Sevin) are normally applied in late July after grubs are present or as a rescue treatment once damage is seen. Products that contain Merit (imidacloprid) are considered grub preventers. Actually, these products do not prevent grubs, but rather kill grubs when they are quite small, and long before they cause damage. Merit is safer to use around pets and humans than traditional grub killers. Merit can be found in BioAdvanced Season-Long Grub Control, Bonide Grub Beater, Gordon's Grub No-More and Hi-Yield Grub Free Zone II and III.

Another grub preventer with the trade name GrubEx contains chlorantraniliprole. Though this product is very effective, it is less water soluble than imidacloprid. It should be applied earlier, preferably April or May, but applications through June should still be effective. Remember, all grub products should be watered in soon after application.

Open Class Judging—Saturday July 23, 2022 Come Join us for Open Show Opportunities

8:00 to 11:00 am-Open Class Domestic Arts, Culinary, Canning & Freezing, Sewing, Agriculture, Horticulture and Open Class Fine Arts entries accepted-Community Bldg.
8:00 am to Noon-Floral Department. entries accepted, Community Bldg.



Save the date for the local Purdue Field days.

Pinney Purdue Farm field day Aug. 17th

ACRE (Agronomy Farm) Sept 8th

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Field Crop Disease Resources For Indiana

BY: DARCY TELENKO

It is important to monitoring for diseases to make an informed decision if a fungicide is necessary. As a reminder for disease to occur three things need to be present; 1. Virulent **Pathogen**, 2. Susceptible **Host**, and 3. **Favorable Environment**.

Foliar diseases in corn that we monitor in Indiana include gray leaf spot, northern corn leaf blight, northern corn leaf spot, and tar

A few questions to think about when scouting and looking for disease:

1. What is the disease history in the field? How much residue is still present? (What happened in previous years, if you have a 2-year rotation?)
2. What growth stage is the field? Early planting vs. late

Is irrigation being applied? How much and how often? If water is being applied, it can change the environmental conditions and disease risk in a field.

See the forecast from the Tarspotter App <https://ipcm.wisc.edu/apps/tarspotter/>

These maps are live that will be updated when a positive county confirmation is detected. If you are interested in up-to-date information on the current detection of these diseases, the maps are available on the front page of our Extension website <https://extension.purdue.edu/fieldcroppathology/>.

Should I be putting out a fungicide?

Research has shown the best return on investment in making a fungicide application in corn occurs when the fungal diseases are active in the corn canopy. It is important to keep scouting.

Based on our research, to minimize the impact of tar spot on crop yield we need to be protecting the ear leaf and above until the corn reaches black layer. In our fungicide timing trials applications made at VT/R1 (tassel /silk) to R2 (blister) have been the optimum timings at controlling tar spot, but we did see that once the fungicide ran out of steam (3-week window) tar spot began to pick up. A **well-timed, informed fungicide application** will be important to reduced disease severity when it is needed, and we recommend holding off until the diseases become active and corn is nearing VT/R1 (tassel/silk) or even R2 (blister).

If you suspect tar spot in your fields, please consider submitting samples for confirmation. We are interested in documenting the disease in Indiana, similar to last year. Research funding from the Indiana Corn Marketing Council is supporting sample processing, therefore there will be no charge for corn tar spot or southern rust suspected samples submitted to the clinic.

What to look for: Small, black, raised spots (circular or oval) develop on infected plants, and may appear on one or both sides of the leaves, leaf sheaths, and husks. Spots may be found on both healthy (green) and dying (brown) tissue. Sometime, the black spots may be surrounded by a tan or brown halo; this is especially obvious on healthy leaves.

I want to ask before you submit a sample you do a quick and dirty “scratch test” to see if you can rub the spot off the leaf, especially if you have leaves with just a few small spots. I have been successful in detecting these false spots by using my nail to scratch as the suspect lesion. This is a quick way to check, but as always if you are unsure send me an image or the sample to the Purdue Plant Pest Diagnostic Lab. Please collect several leaves showing the symptoms and send them with a PPDL form https://ag.purdue.edu/btnv/ppdl/Documents/Forms/PPDL-Form_13MAY15FILLABLE.pdf.

Mail to: Plant and Pest Diagnostic Laboratory, LSPS-Room 116, Purdue University, 915 W. State Street, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2054.

The lab is operating and the building is open, but the lab door is remaining locked. If dropping off a sample is more convenient than shipping, please call or email the lab prior to stopping by: Phone – 765-494-7071; Email – ppdl-samples@purdue.edu.

If you have any questions please contact Darcy Telenko (dtelenko@purdue.edu) or call 764-496-5168 or PPDL (ppdl-samples@purdue.edu) or call 765-494-707