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Downy Mildew in Cucurbits Update – July 28, 2006

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We have received an emergency use registration for Tanos 50 DF fungicide for use on cucumbers and melons in Ontario. Tanos is a welcome addition to our current control strategy.

All cucumber growers are advised to follow a 5-day spray schedule alternating between Tanos, Bravo, Cabrio, Bravo, etc... All Cabrio and Tanos applications must be followed up with a broad spectrum fungicide treatment such as Bravo or mancozeb (Dithane, Manzate or Penncozeb). Mancozeb products should not be applied within 14 days of harvest.

Our current fungicide recommendations are as follows:

Fungicide	Rate	Days to Harvest Interval
Tanos 50 DF	230 g/ac	7
Bravo 500	1.9 L/ac	1
Cabrio EG	336 g/ac	3
Bravo 500	1.9 L/ac	1

Apply Tanos 50 DF at a rate of 230 g/ac in a minimum spray volume of 25-30 gal/ac. The emergency use label specifies a maximum of 4 applications per year and a pre-harvest interval of 7-days. It also specifies a 24-hour re-entry interval.

Tanos is a protectant fungicide. While it is locally systemic, and it will move very short distances within the leaf, it will not necessarily cure existing infections. Tanos is rainfast within 12 hours of application.

The downy mildew situation in Southwestern Ontario continues to worsen. However, for those growers who have managed to hold the disease back thus far, or for late-harvest plantings; an aggressive preventative fungicide program, such as the one outlined above, is strongly recommended.