

2018 Research Report

Cucumber downy mildew monitoring program, Kent & Norfolk County

Prepared for the Ontario Cucumber Research Committee (OCRC)

November 1, 2018

Research Team:

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Highlights/Summary:

- Downy mildew pressure was very low in 2018. No downy mildew was observed in either region during the scouting period, which was June 12 to July 30 in Norfolk/Elgin, and June 18 to July 23 in Kent. Downy mildew was first reported on August 6 in the Norfolk region and Aug 23 in Kent County.

Acknowledgements: We would like to thank Elaine Roddy (OMAFRA) for technical assistance, our summer student Michelle deNijs, all grower cooperators, and financial support from the Ontario Cucumber Research Committee. Field monitoring in Norfolk Co. was completed by the Norfolk Fruit Growers Association (NFGA).

TITLE: Cucumber downy mildew scouting program, Kent Co. & Norfolk Co., Ontario, 2018

PEST(S): Cucumber downy mildew (*Pseudoperonospora cubensis*)

METHODS: Five cucumber fields in Kent County and five fields in the Norfolk/East Elgin County area were scouted once a week for six weeks in Kent County and seven weeks in Norfolk County, beginning in mid-June. Fields were scouted in a 'W' pattern, with special attention to low lying areas and field edges near windbreaks and woodlots. Ten leaves at 20 locations in each field were thoroughly inspected for downy mildew symptoms. Suspect samples in Kent County were collected and brought back to Ridgetown Campus for further inspection by Cheryl Trueman.

Reports were submitted weekly to the Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers. The reports were also distributed to growers and grading stations via the distribution lists that were provided by OPVG and the Hartung Brothers. Reports were also submitted to Elaine Roddy (OMAFRA) for communication via the ONvegetables.com blog.

RESULTS: No downy mildew was observed in either region during the scouting period, which was June 12 to July 30 in Norfolk/Elgin, and June 18 to July 23 in Kent. Downy mildew was first reported on August 6 in the Norfolk region and Aug 23 in Kent via the cucurbit downy mildew IPM PIPE (<http://cdm.ipmpipe.org/>).