IMPORTANT PEST ALERT:

Late blight of tomato and potato, caused by *Phytophthora infestans*, has been confirmed on tomato in Onondaga Co., NY. The location is shown in the map below. This is an early season occurrence but it’s far enough away that plant protection is not necessary at this time in CT. However, it can spread 40 miles or more in a rain storm so be prepared. Updates will be shared over the course of the season on the advance of this disease. You can also monitor it at [www.usablight.org](http://www.usablight.org). Please contact joan.allen@uconn.edu or the diagnostic lab at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station if you suspect late blight in your crop or garden. Symptoms to watch for: [https://ag.umass.edu/vegetable/fact-sheets/solanaceous-late-blight](https://ag.umass.edu/vegetable/fact-sheets/solanaceous-late-blight)

Allium:

*Garlic Bloat Nematode*: Found in garlic in NY and MA. Symptoms can resemble nutrient deficiency or drought stress. Leaves may also be stunted or distorted. Suspect samples including bulbs can be sent to the [UConn Plant Diagnostic Lab](http://www.uconn.edu/diagnos).
**White Rot** in garlic was reported in Orange Co., NY. The field had white rot 15 years ago on onions and had been out of alliums since and this was the first year back into alliums. Resting structures of the fungus called sclerotia can survive in the soil for many years. If your alliums develop this disease and inoculum builds up in the soil, it can be reduced by stimulating the sclerotia to germinate using an onion exudate mimic, diallyl disulphide (this is mentioned in the NE Veg. Mgmt. Guide but not in the Maine fact sheet at the link. Not sure if it’s readily available or effective).

**Botrytis Neck Rot** was found in garlic in Orange Co., NY, especially in heavily mulched fields (straw and plastic) with more moisture.

**Brassica:**

**Flea Beetle:** High populations continue to be active throughout the region. Azatin O for flea beetle larvae control is only effective on bare ground (not mulch) because it needs to penetrate into the soil.

The striped and the crucifer flea beetles have been found this past week in low numbers on cabbage at the Plant Science Research Farm in Storrs, CT. Both species feed on brassica crops and on several cruciferous weeds such as wild mustard, pepperweed and yellow rocket.

**Brassica Caterpillars:** Imported cabbageworm and diamondback moth eggs and caterpillars present in New Haven Co., CT and Middlesex and Worcester Cos., MA. Cabbage looper eggs and caterpillars are also confirmed in the MA locations. Salt marsh caterpillar was reported on broccoli in Franklin Co., MA.

Imported cabbageworm and diamondback moth caterpillars have been recorded on cabbage at the Plant Science Research Farm in Storrs, CT. Imported cabbageworm eggs were also noted on broccoli.

**Swede Midge** was confirmed in NY with a spotty distribution. Populations of this introduced and damaging pest are expected to increase. Symptoms include distortion and stunting of the tissue at the growing tip of the plant. Damage is caused by the larval stage. There are 3-5 generations per year.
Cabbage Aphid was distributed throughout a field in broccoli in Franklin Co., MA. This pest tends to be a bigger problem in fall crops. Reflective mulch is reported to decrease damage. If a spray is needed, use selective options to conserve beneficials.

Beets/Spinach/Chard:

Leafminer continues to be a problem in later plantings of spinach and in beets. It can become a repeating problem with successional plantings. Row cover combined with crop rotation is a possible solution (larvae drop to the soil to pupate when mature).

Cucurbits:

Striped & Spotted Cucumber Beetle damage and beetles were above threshold on summer squash in New Haven Co., CT. A few cases of bacterial wilt (not confirmed) were reported and plants were pulled. Thresholds are 1 beetle/plant for seedlings, 5 beetles/plant for mature plants.

Squash Bug has been noted in NY. Squash bug overwinters in the adult stage and they move to the leaves of squash where eggs are laid on the underside in groups. Scout for adults and eggs. Treatments for cucumber beetles should also help control this pest.
Squash bug eggs (Pamm Cooper, UConn), nymphs and adults (J. Allen, UConn).

**Squash Vine Borer:** Trap catches across the region range from 0-12 this week. Scout for eggs whether or not you are trapping. Make sure you scout your younger plantings that haven’t been treated with insecticides for cucumber beetles. Uncover plantings as late as possible, once numbers have started to fall.

**Solanaceae**

**Colorado Potato Beetle:** 1st and 2nd instar larvae were active on potatoes in Franklin Co, MA,

**Flea Beetle** Damage was reported on eggplant in New Haven Co., CT and Middlesex Co, MA. Populations increasing in CT.

Eggplant flea beetles and damage. David Cappaert, Bugwood.org

**White Mold** aka. timber rot on high tunnel tomato was confirmed on an organic farm in Hartford Co., CT.
**Bacterial Canker:** This damaging disease has appeared at a farm in RI where it is a recurring problem. Likely to be coming through the greenhouse or overwintering in soil. Greenhouse benches can harbor bacteria, especially if they're porous surfaces like wood. Not reusing stakes or other equipment. Another farm in VT also has lots of bacterial canker in high tunnel tomatoes. A farm in NY has canker on grafted high tunnel tomatoes. In the past several years, this disease has started to show up in pepper.

**Sweet Corn:**

**European Corn Borer:** NY: 26/35 sites reporting, ECB-IA/E strain caught at 7, ECB-Z/NY at 12 sites. Corn in whorl stage or silking. NH: 11/27 sites reporting, all with some ECB, highest was 24, most were <10, 9 sites with ECB-NY, 2 sites with ECB-IA.

**Corn Earworm:** NY: Caught at 5 sites. NH: only 2 traps out, no captures.
**Fall Armyworm**: No catches.

**Western Bean Cutworm**: No catches.

**Other or Multiple Crops:**

**Leafhoppers**: Low level of adults but no nymphs found in two field plantings of eggplant in Middlesex, Co., MA and on beans in Worcester Co., MA.

**Tarnished plant bug**: Damage occurring on several crops in NH. More than in past years. One strawberry field in NY has 100% of plants affected.