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Ontario Crops Research Centre – Bradford (Muck Station) IPM Update 2026

Date: August 17

Highlights

- **Onion downy mildew has been confirmed in the Holland Marsh. There continues to be a high risk for onion downy mildew infection as there were sporulation infection periods on Thursday and Friday last week.**
- **Stemphylium leaf blight symptoms continue to spread and develop. There is a high risk for further disease development.**
- Some seeded onion fields are lodging.
- Aster leafhopper activity is sporadic.
- 2nd generation carrot rust flies are active.
- Sclerotinia white mold has been found in carrots.
- The [2026 Muck Crops Research Station Grower Field Day](#) will be held on Thursday September 3rd from 8:30am – 4 pm. Coffee and donuts will be served compliments of Stokes Seeds. Lunch will also be provided. We look forward to seeing everyone here.

Disease Forecasting Highlight:

Botrytis leaf blight (BOTcast)	Onion downy mildew (DOWNcast)	Stemphylium leaf blight (BSPcast)	White Rot on onions	Sclerotinia (White Mold) on Carrot	General conditions for disease (TOMcast)	Lettuce downy mildew (BREMcast)
LOW RISK	HIGH RISK	HIGH RISK	LOW RISK	MODERATE RISK	HIGH RISK	HIGH RISK

Onion Update

Onion downy mildew has been found in the Holland Marsh. Conditions continue to be favourable for onion downy mildew infection as there were two more sporulation infection periods on Thursday and Friday. The number of sporangia being caught in our spore traps has also been increasing. If your onions will be standing for a while longer there are many products registered for control of downy mildew, but our research at the Muck Station has shown that



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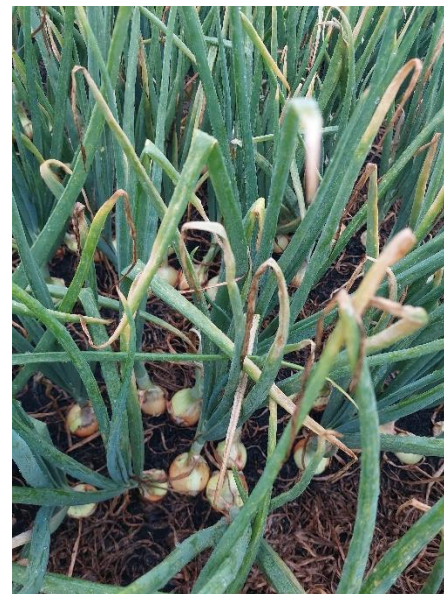




Orondis Ultra (group 40/49), Orondis Gold (group 4/+49) and Zampro (group 45/40) are the most effective for controlling this disease. Ridomil Gold MZ (group 4/M3) is no longer being produced, but if you have some it is an effective product as well. Orondis Ultra should be applied with a non-ionic surfactant. These systemic products should protect onions for 10 days. Mancozeb products, such as Manzate Pro-Stick, Dithane Rainshield and Penncozeb 75 DF Raincoat (all group M3), can be effective for controlling downy mildew if applied before infection takes place. Rotating fungicides is very important.

Stemphylium leaf blight is present in all onion fields and disease symptoms have been increasing gradually. Disease severity ranges from field to field; some fields have more severe disease development. More Stemphylium sporulation has been found on onion tips and lower onion lesions. There continues to be a high risk for disease development. We recommend alternating the group 7 fungicides (Miravis Duo, Sercadis, Aprovia/Aprovia Top and Merivon) with Allegro (group 29) for Stemphylium leaf blight suppression and resistance management. Resistance has been developing to the active ingredient in Sercadis and Merivon. The group 7 systemic products are effective for around 10-14 days and the contact fungicide Allegro is effective for around 7- 10 days.

We do not recommend spraying Quadris Top (group 11/3) or Luna Tranquility (group 7/9) for Stemphylium as resistance has developed to these fungicides. Latest research has found very high resistance in Stemphylium to one of the fungicides in Quadris Top and high resistance to one of the fungicides in Luna Tranquility.



Stemphylium symptoms - Scout



Stemphylium Leaf Blight in the Holland Marsh

For more information on managing Stemphylium leaf blight, check out our “Stemphylium Leaf Blight in the Holland Marsh” video on our Muck Crops IPM YouTube channel by clicking on the thumbnail to the left.

Thrips populations are sporadic throughout the marsh but numbers have been increasing in standing onion fields as other fields lodge. If your field surpasses the 3 thrips/leaf threshold, the products we would recommend applying next are Agri-Mek SC (group 6), Delegate WG (group 5), Minecto Pro (group 6/28) or Exirel (group 28). These insecticides should also be applied back-to-back, no more than 2 weeks apart.



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For weed control, registered [preemergence](#) and [postemergence](#) herbicides can be found in the Ontario Crop Protection Hub by following the links.

Carrot Update



White mold - Scout

Many carrot canopies have closed in and Sclerotinia white mold has been found in a few fields. Allegro 500F, Scholar 230SC, Luna Sensation and Switch 62.5 WG are registered for control and Miravis Duo and Fontelis are registered for suppression. It is important to try and get these products down into the crown and lower canopy as best you can. For fields where canopies are closing in it is important to apply a fungicide soon to get the product down to the soil while you can. This is even more important in high white mold risk fields.

Second generation carrot rust flies are active. This generation can cause damage. If your field is over the 0.1 flies/trap/day threshold Mako, UP-Cyde 2.5 EC, Labamba, Matador 120EC and Silencer 120 EC are registered for control.

Aster leafhopper activity has been variable and aster yellows has been minimal. Sevin XLR, Admire 240F, Actara 25WG, Closer and Sivanto Prime are registered if your field is over the 20 leafhoppers/trap or 1 leafhopper/sweep thresholds.

For weed control, registered [preemergence](#) and [postemergence](#) herbicides can be found in the Ontario Crop Protection Hub by following the links.

Celery Update

Blights have been found regularly, but overall disease severity is still low. There are many fungicides registered to manage blights in celery, which can be found on the [Ontario Crop Protection Hub](#). Celery leaf curl has been found as well. Switch 62.5 WG and Quadris Flowable are registered for leaf curl control. Tarnished plant bugs have been active, but damage continues to be minimal.

Registered celery herbicides can be found in the [Ontario Crop Protection Hub](#).

Daily Weather

Date (August)	Max temperature (°C)	Min temperature (°C)	Rain (mm)
13	28.0	13.2	0.0
14	29.0	12.5	0.0
15	26.0	13.2	0.0
16	27.4	14.0	0.8

Soil Temperature (°C): 5cm: 22.2

Any questions or comments? Please call Tyler Blauel at (365) 340-4158

