

AGRICULTURAL BEET

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Cercospora Leaf Spot

Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative
Renville, MN
www.smbc.com | 320.329.8305

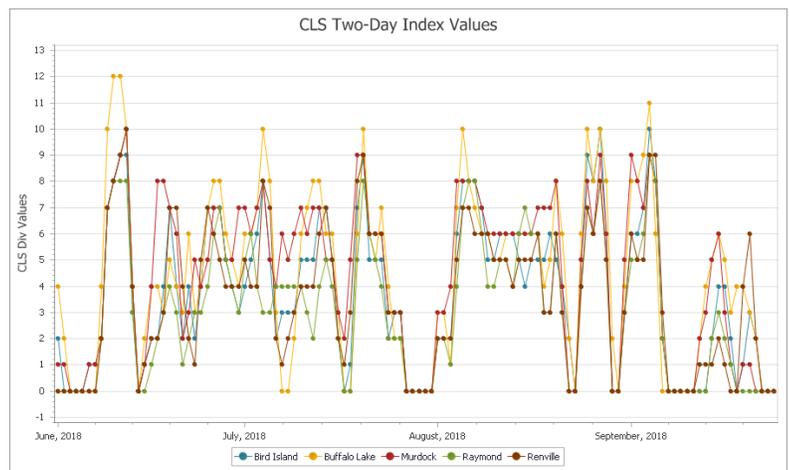
3rd in Agricultural Beet Series on Cercospora Leafspot

In this third edition of the Ag Beet series on Cercospora Leafspot, we will discuss tools available for you to utilize in your management plan as well as discuss the front lines on this battle: field borders on a common line to 2018 sugar beet fields.

Cercospora Disease Index Values (DIV)

The Cercospora Disease Index Values are a gauge of the potential for this disease to infect sugar beets. The disease is favored by warm and humid weather, and thus the more humidity and higher the temperatures are, the higher the disease index values will be and the higher the probability that Cercospora will infect your sugar beets. The graph to the right is from the 2018 growing season. There are two things to note from the 2018 graph.

1. There was a significant number of days in June of 2018 that were favorable for disease development. This allowed the disease to get a foothold on our crop ahead of most spray programs.
2. Throughout the 2018 growing season, there were many days with two day DIV's above six. Two day totals above six are highly favorable for disease development. When we are in a pattern of high disease index values, you can not afford to extend your spray intervals. During high infection periods, spray intervals should be reduced.



The disease index values for the 2019 growing season can be found each day on the SMBSC website. This graph can be accessed by following the following link:

https://www.smbc.com/Agronomy/CLS_DIVvalues.aspx

CLS Disease Index Values (DIV)

- 1-3 = Low disease infection potential
- 4-5 = Moderate disease infection potential
- 6+ = High disease infection potential

Common Lines to 2018 Sugar Beet Fields

The battle lines for management of Cercospora are the field borders that are on a common line to 2018 fields and also protected areas near tree lines or building sites where Cercospora can get a early head start on your crop. These areas will benefit from an early fungicide application, even prior to full canopy. A good practice for these areas is to apply the maximum application rate of an EBDC fungicide 7-10 days ahead of your planned first fungicide treatment on the field. On common lines, this would be 1-2 sprayer widths depending on the size of your spray boom, and in those protected areas near building sites, the entire protected area should be sprayed. These areas are also important to border later in the season with a ground sprayer if you apply fungicide to the field in an aerial application.

SMBSC Cercospora Quick Sheet

The SMBSC Agricultural Staff has assembled a Cercospora Quicksheet with recommendations for the 2019 season. This document contains fungicide product information such as the SMBSC recommended fungicide product combinations and alternation program, labeled products for 2019, application rates, pre-harvest intervals, restricted entry intervals, application instructions, and variety tolerance ratings. The quicksheet can be accessed by following this link:

<https://www.smbsc.com/Agronomy/QuickRefSheets.aspx>

and then clicking on the 2019 CLS Summary Quick Sheet.

Mark Bloomquist
Research Director

Contact your Agriculturist with any CLS questions.



Agricultural Department
Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative

Editors:
Todd Geselius
Steve Roehl
David Mettler
Mark Bloomquist