

# AGRICULTURAL BEET

June 26, 2020  
Cercospora Leaf Spot

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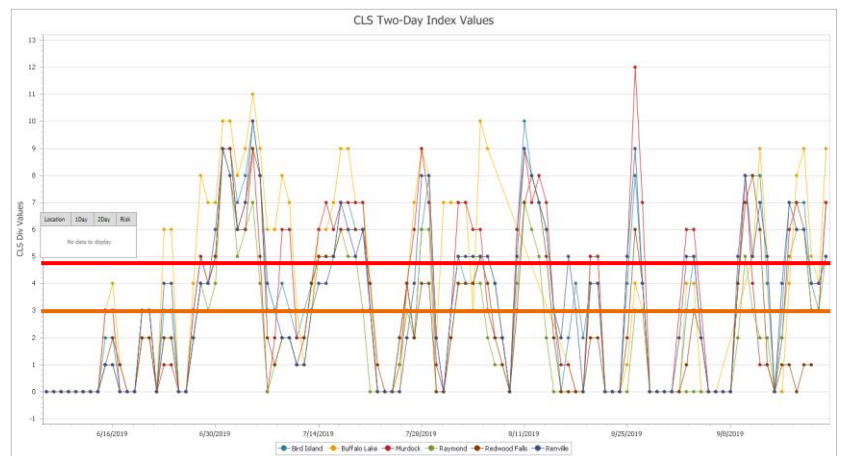
## Cercospora Leafspot Disease Index Values

One tool available to you to make timely spray decisions is the CLS Disease Index Values (DIV) graph created by SMBSC. DIVs calculate using weather station generated data. These stations collect relative humidity and air temperature readings across the growing area. CLS is more active in a warm and humid environment. DIVs are calculated by recording the number of hours that are above humidity and temperature set points that were established through research based assessment of disease development curves. High DIVs represent environments where CLS can reproduce and re-infect quicker and more easily in the warmer and more humid weather of the previous two days.

The past two growing seasons saw high and very high DIVs for the majority of the season. Frequent rains (and evaporation of that rain) added moisture to the air and kept humidity frequently above 85%. That rainfall can lead to potential loss of fungicide product from the leaf as well as creating a more infectious environment in the hours after the rain event.

None of our CLS fungicide products provide “reach back”. It is important that crop protection products are in place, especially in high DIV environments. High DIVs and receiving rain on an applied product may warrant a shortening of spraying intervals to better protect our canopies during highly infectious periods.

A generally drier start to the 2020 season should give everyone a lot of hope for this crop and for CLS management. Despite our relatively dry weather, DIVs have accumulated and CLS lesions have already been identified in our coop. Make sure to consult your agriculturalist and the DIV chart prior to stretching any intervals this season.



### CLS Disease Index Values (DIV) from 2019 season

- 1-3 = Low disease infection potential
- 4-5 = Moderate disease infection potential (orange line)
- 6 = High disease infection potential (red line)
- 6+ = Very High disease infection potential

The disease index values for the 2020 growing season can be found each day on the SMBSC website. This graph can be accessed by following the following link:  
[https://www.smbosc.com/Agronomy/CLS\\_DIVvalues.aspx](https://www.smbosc.com/Agronomy/CLS_DIVvalues.aspx)