VEGETABLE CROPS UPDATE

Volume 5 January 1995 No. 1

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4.0 Eggplant Cultivar Trials, H. Valenzuela and J. DeFrank, (Vol 3 No. 4, July 93)
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7.0 Effect of Composts on Lettuce Yields, H. Valenzuela and R. Hamasaki, (Vol 4 No. 1 Jan. 94)
8.0. Last minute report: Chinese cabbage cultivar trials in Volcano, H. Valenzuela and D. Sato, (Vol 4 No. 1 Jan. 94)
11.0 High Elevation Head Cabbage Cultivar Trial, D. Sato and H. Valenzuela, (Vol. 4, No. 4, Aug. 94).
12.0 Tomato Greenhouse Cultivar Trials at High Elevation, D. Sato and H. Valenzuela, (Vol. 4, No. 4, Aug. 94).

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25th International Carrot Improvement Workshop, 13-14 Feb., 1995, Red Lion Hotel Conference Ctr., Bakersfield, Calif., For information contact: Dr. V. Rubatzky, Univ. California, Dept. Vegetable Crops, Davis, CA 95616-8746, Tel. 916-752-0516, Fax. 916-752-9659.


Feature Articles

1. Florida field tomato production technology. March 1993
9. Insectaries, Nov. 1994
Monthly asparagus imports into Hawaii, 1991

Monthly carrot imports into Hawaii, 1991

Monthly broccoli imports into Hawaii, 1991

Monthly Cauliflower Imports into Hawaii, 1991

Monthly cabbage imports into Hawaii, 1991

Monthly Celery Imports into Hawaii, 1991
Watermelon Fruit Blotch

Bacterial fruit blotch in watermelon, Pseudomonas pseudoalcaligenes subsp. citrulii Schaad et al (not yet certainly determined), was first detected in the Marianna Islands in 1987. In the US the disease was almost simultaneously detected in 1989 in Florida, South Carolina, Indiana, and other eastern states. The disease is still mainly concentrated in eastern states, but already reached Arkansas, Iowa, and is widespread in Oklahoma. In August 1994 Asgrow, Petoseed, Rogers, and Harris Moran suspended sales of watermelon seed in the US due to bacterial fruit blotch, which can be transmitted by seed. A national committee was then assembled which got all parties together and allowed continuation of seed sales, along with proper labels warning growers of the potential risks with fruit blotch. The best method currently available is testing of 10,000 seeds from each seed lot, but no tests can guarantee 100% non-infection.

**Fruit blotch factoids**

- Seedborne, transmitted by water, implements, transplants, and cultural practices.
- First symptoms are small greasy-looking, watersoaked areas a few millimeters in diameter. Lesions with irregular margins expand rapidly into large dark-green watersoaked lesions several centimeters in diameter. The entire fruit surface, except the ground spot, may be covered within a few days. A white bacterial ooze may be seen exuding from the fruit.
- Symptoms also appear on watermelon seedlings, as irregularly shaped lesions along the midrib, progressing toward the cotyledon margins. Small brown lesions may occur on small true leaves.
- Management includes close monitoring and copper sprays at first sign of infection. Treatments are 3-4 copper sprays at first flower, fruit set, and two weeks after that.
- Proactive treatments include weekly copper sprays at half the recommended label rates.
- Fruit blotch also attacks muskmelon.
- Leaf lesions don’t cause defoliation but act as bacteria reservoirs for fruit infection.

**References**


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