

VEGETARIAN

July 2, 1958

Gentlemen:

Several things of interest have occurred or will be coming up that are worth reporting.

Short Course for Florida Seedsmen and Garden Supply Dealers. The final program has been set and there are many interesting subjects that will be covered. We invite all of you to attend and request that you contact other people who would be interested.

The program begins Wednesday, July 9, 1958 at 1:00 P.M. in McCarty Hall Auditorium, University of Florida, Gainesville, and will run through Friday morning July 11th.

Subjects to be covered include plant breeding, new varieties, pest control, storage and handling of seed, plant growers responsibilities, merchandising garden supplies, how to prepare specimens for identification, movies of interest, garden soil management, fertilizers, hydroponics, seed laws, certification programs, foundation seed association purpose and other related subjects. Each of these subjects will be presented by experts in their field, so come and learn with us.

NEW PUBLICATIONS:

Two USDA Publications have just been revised and are available from the Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

Suggested Guide for Chemical Control of Weeds
ARS 22-46

Insects & Diseases of Vegetables in the Home Garden
Home & Garden Bulletin No. 46

Now that the vegetable field days are over at the various branch stations there are some interesting things to report.

POTATO FIELD LABORATORY, HASTINGS, FLORIDA - Field day held April 8th with a very good crowd and plenty to hear and see. It was stated by Dr. Eddins that the condition known as "Corky Ring Spot" of potato tubers is now known to be caused by a virus. This means that control measures can now be more easily worked out with the cause known.

Dr. Myhre discussed his work on cover crops following potatoes and indicated several of our common weeds might be very good ones, particularly crab grass and cockle burs. No final results or recommendations on this work as yet.

Dr. McCubbin discussed several aspects of cabbage and potato production. The use of DNBP for weed control in potatoes looked very good, recommended three pounds of DNBP per acre pre-emergence.

A report on Dr. Norris' work on insect control was given with particular emphasis on research toward practical control of the very troublesome species of wire worm found in the Hastings area. Progress is being made in this work and a practical control will no doubt be found soon.

PLANTATION FIELD LABORATORY, FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA - The field day was held on April 17th with several interesting things to report. First, continued cold weather, heavy rains and hail had harassed research workers most of the winter and spring but in spite of this all was not lost.

Dr. Ozaki had some very good fertility plots on peppers etc. It appeared at the time that the more frequent and continuing side dressings of nitrogen and potash would be the best treatments. No final results were available at the time.

Dr. Boyd had some very interesting soy beans in his variety trials.

Dr. Moore had some results to report on the application of dry organic matter to soil for aid in controlling damping off of beans. His work indicated dry material was better than freshly turned green manure. The recommendation was if green manures are grown, cut them and allow them to dry on the surface before turning under and allow at least a month to six weeks before planting.

INDIAN RIVER FIELD LABORATORY, FT. PIERCE, FLORIDA - The field day was held Wednesday, May 7th with good attendance. They also had suffered from weather.

Mr. Hayslip discussed his rotation studies for tomatoes and has devised a system which looks very promising for going from tomatoes into Pangola grass and clover then to pasture with a minimum of time lost and then going from Pangola to tomatoes or cucumbers with efficiency.

We also saw the new tomato variety "Indian River" which is resistant to Gray Wall, a physiological condition, plus resistance to other diseases. It appears to be adapted to ground culture as a mature green or staked, harvested as a vine ripe. Limited seed should be available for winter and spring of 1959.

Dr. Stall reported on his work on disease control in tomatoes with only slight changes recommended from practices used in the past. Any definite changes will be reported at a later date.

EVERGLADES EXPERIMENT STATION, BELLE GLADE, FLORIDA - Tuesday, May 13th was the day here with many good reports and much to see in the field.

Mr. Wolfe showed us his celery breeding lines and the variety recently named "Emerald" which looks very promising as a spring variety.

Dr. Van Nostrand has an interesting experiment on the prediction of when Helminthosporium blight of corn will occur by correlating temperatures, rainfall and humidity with spore counts in the field. This should aid in taking a lot of the guess work out of scheduling sprays for control of this disease plus saving of money to the grower.

Dr. Burdine discussed his work on vegetable varieties and reported on several white seeded sweet corn varieties which are worth trying plus several yellow varieties which are promising. Look for more on these in a later report.

Dr. Harris re-emphasized the necessity for extreme caution in the handling of pesticides and the necessity for physical examinations for workers who are in contact with organic phosphate insecticides.

Dr. Orsenigo discussed weed control and showed his plots at the station where he is screening many herbicides on several crops. Some of the suggested chemicals for weed control are being published in an Extension Circular soon.

Dr. Simons discussed his research on the use of border crops around pepper fields to help in the control of virus diseases of peppers. His research indicates that a 50 foot planting of a non-susceptible crop around fields tends to trap or prevent the movement of insects from the field edges into the pepper fields.

In our next Vegetarian we will discuss some of the highlights of the work going on at the other stations including, the Main Station, Gulf Coast Station, Central Florida Station Subtropical Station and North Florida Station.

Sincerely,



Mason E. Marvel
Assistant Vegetable
Crop Specialist

MEM:bb