



Vegetable Crops Department

VEGETARIAN

NO. 50

University of Florida
Gainesville
March 16, 1960

TO: COUNTY AGENTS

Topics Covered In This Issue Are:

- I AG. CHEMICALS - NOTES OF CURRENT INTEREST
- II SUMMER SCHOOL - VEGETABLE CROPS SHORT COURSE
- III FIELD DAYS - DATES, TIMES AND PLACES OF THOSE ALREADY SET

I - AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

- A. New Food and Drug Regulation, Public Law 86-139, covering growth regulators, nematocides, fumigants, rodenticides and other agricultural chemicals not previously covered by FDA regulations became effective on March 6, 1960. All stocks of chemicals purchased prior to March 6 should be carefully checked out by you to make sure you can now use them on each vegetable crop.

Several manufacturers requested and were granted one year usage extensions for specific chemicals which do not leave a residue on the harvested product.

Several specific extensions were granted on March 5, 1960, as follows - 2,4-D to intensify red color on potatoes and four growth regulators for inhibiting sprouting on onions and potatoes.

- B. Present stocks of heptachlor with old labels may not be used on vegetable crops except for soil use only on lima beans, corn, tomatoes and peppers. Do not apply to foliage of any vegetable crop.
- C. Commercial growers should be cautioned on the use of, or allowing the use of, experimental chemicals on vegetable crops which will be harvested and sold. There are definite regulations established which must be followed. The chemical must first have been registered for experimental use and have a temporary tolerance granted by FDA and must be used only on a small section of any one block of a crop.
- D. Watermelon and other cucurbit seed that are purchased in sealed containers and treated with thiram and dieldrin - will not control rodents and birds. These two chemicals are only soil insect and disease control and treatments. The rodent control treatment must be done by the farmer and no seed is

being sold with this treatment already made. See Extension Circular 96C, Watermelon Production Guide, for exact chemicals and method to use.

E. Diuron was registered for use as a herbicide on sweet corn and potatoes on February 18, 1960. A residue tolerance of not more than 1 ppm is allowed.

F. EPTC --- on sale for restricted use on specific crops.

EPTC is back on the market on a restricted sales basis for specific vegetable crops. Included in this group are snap and pole beans of specified varieties and Irish potatoes. Suppliers can furnish details on how to obtain EPTC, if desired.

Another group of vegetable crops may be treated with EPTC under "Experimental Use Only" label. These crops are table beets, sweet corn, staked tomatoes and sweet potatoes.

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II - SUMMER SCHOOL - VEGETABLE SHORT COURSE

The Vegetable Crops Department is offering a 3-week course in vegetable production during the 1960 Summer Session at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Classes begin on June 21st. The course, listed as VC499, carries $1\frac{1}{2}$ semester hours of credit.

The following is an outline of the course:

V.C. 499 Topics in Vegetable Production (Production Principles)

1. General classification of vegetables.
(a) Culture, (b) Hardiness, (c) Botanical
2. Seed
(a) Methods of production, (b) Certified seed, (c) Life expectation, (d) Dormancy, (e) Storage
3. Plant production
(a) Seed bed, cold frame culture and field production
(b) Hardening of plants
(c) Transplanting
1. Methods and adaptability of plants.
4. Vegetable Soils
(a) Soil adaptability, (b) Management
5. Cultivation
(a) Methods and principles, (b) Value, (c) Other methods of weed control
6. Fertilization of vegetables
(a) Role of major and minor elements, (b) Fertilizer application and placement, (c) Inter-relationship with other environmental factors
7. Response of vegetables to temperature
(a) Vegetative production, (b) Reproductive growth
8. Response of vegetables to daylength
(a) Vegetative growth, (b) Reproductive growth
9. Irrigation and drainage
10. Selection of vegetable varieties for Florida

Laboratory: Field observations of breeding, fertilization and cultural experiments. Panel discussion on control of plant diseases.

III -

FIELD DAYS

of

FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

HASTINGS: Potato Investigations Laboratory

Date - Tuesday, March 29, 1960

Time - 1:15 P.M.

IMMOKALEE: South Florida Field Laboratory

Date - Thursday, April 28, 1960

Time - 1:30 P.M.

BELLE GLADE: Everglades Experiment Station

Date - Wednesday, May 4, 1960

Time - 9:30 A.M. (and continue into afternoon ---
Box lunches will be available there from
catering service)

SANFORD: - Central Florida Experiment Station

Date - Thursday, May 12, 1960

Time - 1:30 P.M.

ZELLWOOD: - Experiment Station Muck Farm

Date - Friday, May 13, 1960

Time - 9:00 A.M.

Note: Additional copies of this announcement may be obtained by writing
The Vegetable Crops Department, Gainesville, Florida.