NPDN
National Plant Diagnostic Network

First Detector Network News

A newsletter for the NPDN First Detector Community

October 2009 *Volume 7 Number 9*

Highlights…..

NEW! Detection of Emerald Ash Borer in New York & additional counties in PA and WI added to quarantine area HERE.

NEW! Detection of the European grapevine moth in a CA. vineyard - new US record HERE.

More Highlights on page 3

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Preventing Late Blight in 2010

For our fellow gardeners in the northern part of the country the late blight epidemic is over and clean up and prevention for next year has begun. For those gardeners in the southern region of the country there is still time left in the growing season and the potential for a resurgence of late blight. Drs. Beth Gugino of Penn State and Meg McGrath of Cornell have graciously allowed me to use some of their work both in the diagnosing and prevention of late blight for this article. All of the websites used for this article can be found on page 4.

Late blight does not infect seeds so if you are planning on using your own tomato seeds for next year's garden that is perfectly safe. It will survive on infected potato tubers so if there were symptoms of late blight in your garden don't use tubers as seed. Late blight does not overwinter on tomato stakes and cages, however there are other pathogens that can survive on stakes and cages so it is always a good idea to practice good hygiene when preparing for the following year. Be very vigilant for 'volunteers' that may pop up both in a compost pile or in the garden. These volunteers can harbor late blight.

Composting: If you are composting it is important to remember that *P. infestans* (the causal agent of late blight) is an obligate pathogen; it cannot survive without living tissue. Article con't on page 4

NPDN Participates at the National Association of County Agricultural Agents Convention in Portland, Oregon

By Dick Hoenisch

The NPDN was well represented at the trade show for National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) annual convention in Portland, Oregon, from September 20 – 24, 2009. Natalie Hummel (LSU/SPDN), Tara Smith (LSU/SPDN), Steve Cain (Purdue/EDEN), and Dick Hoenisch (UC Davis/WPDN) staffed the booth with wonderful auxiliary help from NACAA/NPDN members from Louisiana. The booth was right by the main entry into the trade exhibit, which guaranteed us no shortage of NACAA members to talk with about the NPDN and their own fields of expertise. The website for NACAA can be found at: http://www.nacaa.com/

NACAA membership is geared toward Extension educators and other professionals who work in agriculture, horticulture, forestry and natural resources, 4-H youth development, community development, administration, aquaculture, and related disciplines. There were many Cooperative Extension members from various states present at the meeting. The participants were equally divided between plant and animal agriculture. Many NACAA members are also members of the NPDN or NAHLN, the National Animal Health Laboratory Network. There were 1150 present at the meeting, of which 725 were Extension Agents/Specialists, with the rest being life members, industry, and family members.

Natalie Hummel, LSU Presenting on the FD Program

The NPDN staff challenged the NACAA participants who ventured to the booth to a 15 question quiz dealing with regional NPDN diseases and pests of concern. 115 participants had the courage to take the quiz, and won various prizes depending on their scores, including NPDN flashlights, clipboards, and fanny packs. Most of the answers were on the NPDN display and we helped a few of the participants with some of the more difficult questions. We offered the latest in NPDN pest alerts and identification booklets. For the animal scientists, Steve Cain had a large amount of EDEN (Extension Disaster Education Network) "Animal Agro Security" DVDs available. If interested, please see: http://eden.lsu.edu/EDENCourses/Pages/default.aspx Natalie Hummel from Louisiana State University presented an overview of the mission of the NPDN at one of the NACAA sessions. We met folks from all over the United States, with a large contingent coming from the Southern and Mid-western states. The participants were quite friendly and welcoming and quite willing to discuss their states, their fields of expertise, and agriculture. We all learned much more about US agriculture from the NACAA members while getting the word out about the NPDN.

Training and other updates...

- Did you know….**NPDN is now on Twitter!** If you need more NPDN relevant updates then check out the NPDN on twitter. The content will focus primarily on items of interest to the First Detectors and the NPDN community. Get those tweets **here.**

- Do you have an interest in authoring a NPDN E-Learning module? Due to requests a simplified guide for authoring NPDN E-Learning Modules has been posted on the NPDN First Detector information page. That link is **here.**

Join us for the second annual NPDN meeting in Miami 12/2009. More…

Sunday December 6, 2009 Optional Pre Meeting Tour (Advance registration required) and Welcome reception. Monday December 7, 2009 Plenary Session. Tuesday December 8, 2009 Symposium Genomic Tools and Resources for Pest Identification. Wednesday December 9, 2009 Regional Meetings. Thursday December 10, 2009 Optional Post Meeting Tour (Advance registration required).

First Detector Training for the Master Gardener

- Click **here** for the link.

Free 2009 NEIPM Berry Webinar series

- Click **here** for the link.

Web based IPM education designed to help individuals become proficient in IPM principles and applications of IPM. CEU's available.

- Click **here** for the link.

Highlights con't….

Update on detection of Huanglongbing in backyard trees in the States of Yucatan and Quintana Roo, Mexico HERE.

NEW! Mediterranean Fruit Fly - Establishment of a Quarantine area in the Escondido area of San Diego County, California HERE.

NEW! The entire state of West Virginia and 3 counties in Wisconsin added to quarantine for Emerald Ash Borer HERE.

NEW! First find of Chrysanthemum White Rust in Virginia HERE.

Revision of Citrus Greening/Asian Citrus Psyllid Federal Order Expanding Quarantine Area to Orange and Los Angeles Counties, California HERE.

NEW! Publication of Final Rule on Movement of Fresh Fruit from Areas Quarantined For Citrus Canker HERE.

NPDN National Meeting Registration site now open.

The NPDN National Meeting Registration site is now open! Please click here to register. The hotel block at the Intercontinental Miami is "National Plant Diagnostic Network Meeting" and the number to call for 24-hour booking is (866)-577-3753. To register for tours and workshops please click here.

Unless you are certain that you are composting properly the best idea is to bag the infected plant material and dispose of it in the trash. For questions about home-

Late Blight con't

owner composting please click here. Questions regarding commercial composting are addressed here.

Prevention: To prevent late blight in tomatoes next year consider planting resistant varieties. Some varieties with resistance or tolerance to late blight are: "Mountain Magic", "Plum Regal" and "Legend". For organic gardeners please click here for a link to organic management of late blight.

There is a wealth of information out there concerning late blight. Some of the best sites I've found with clear, comprehensive information are as follows: Late Blight FAQ, Late Blight Corrections of Misinformation, Fungicides for Home Owners, Frequently Asked Question about Late Blight, Tomato Late Blight: Fall Clean Up, and Plan Now for a Late Blight Free 2010.

To view the most current issue of WPDN quarterly newsletter please click here.

On the Web...

WPDN guidelines and check list for First Detector sample submissions here.

Research Associate I Phytopathology with Harris Morgan Seed Company. For information and details on the application process please click here.

Employment Opportunities...

Program Specialist for Bugwood Tifton, GA. For information and details on the application process please click here.

Plant Pathology Assistant Professor at Utah State University. For information details on the application process please click here.

Click here if you would like to receive the newsletter via email or to submit articles for inclusion in the next newsletter.

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The NPDN is a network of state and federal officials, land grant universities, and first detectors whose mission is to detect, diagnose, and disseminate information regarding high consequence plant disease or pests. The five regions that make up the NPDN are: NEPDN, SPDN, NCPDN, GPDN, and WPDN.

SPDN
Southern Plant Diagnostic Network

IPM news

- Northeastern IPM Center here.
- Invasive Species of MA here
- Brooklyn Botanical Garden pest alerts and more here.
- North Central IPM pest alerts here.
- Western IPM Center pest alerts here.
- Travelling? Check out the bed-bug registry here.
- University of Idaho Pest Management Center here.
- University of Arizona Pest Alerts here.
- The Western Front magazine here.
- University of CA statewide IPM here.