

# Vegetable Crop Update

*A newsletter for commercial potato and vegetable growers prepared by the University of Wisconsin-Madison vegetable research and extension specialists*

**No. 11 – June 20, 2020**

**Division of Extension**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

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Potato production updates

Disease forecasting for early and late blight in potato

**Calendar of Events**

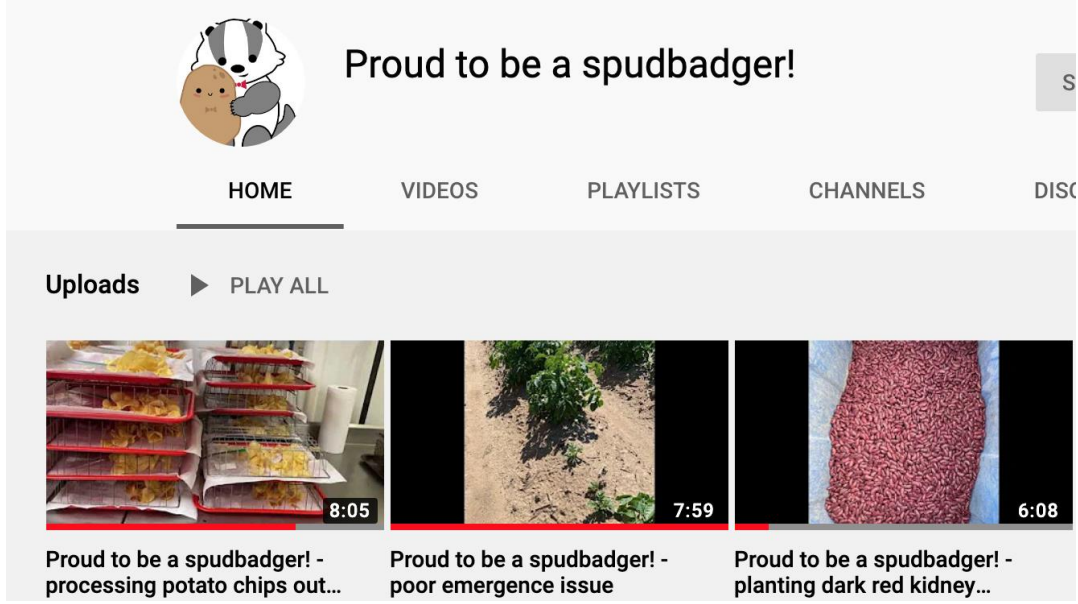
**July 16, 2020** – UW Hancock Ag Research Station Field Day CANCELLED

**December 1-3, 2020** – Midwest Food Producers Association Annual Convention/Processing Crops Conference, Kalahari, Wisconsin Dells, WI

**February 2-4, 2021** – UW-Madison Div. of Extension & WPVGA Grower Education Conference, Holiday Inn, Stevens Point, WI

**Yi Wang, Assistant Professor & Extension Potato and Vegetable Production Specialist, UW-Madison, Dept. of Horticulture, 608-265-4781, Email: wang52@wisc.edu.**

This week I have three vlogs to share with you: poor emergence issue in some potato varieties (<https://youtu.be/l6GiosGoLts>), potato chip processing out of storage (<https://youtu.be/16RMafn0Szo>), and dark red kidney bean planting (<https://youtu.be/YSt9hoOIrc>). I welcome you to subscribe to my YouTube channel “Proud to be a spudbadger!” to stay informed of the latest potato and vegetable production research updates.

**Proud to be a spudbadger!**

HOME VIDEOS PLAYLISTS CHANNELS DISC

**Uploads** ▶ PLAY ALL

- Proud to be a spudbadger! - processing potato chips out...** 8:05
- Proud to be a spudbadger! - poor emergence issue** 7:59
- Proud to be a spudbadger! - planting dark red kidney...** 6:08

For our healthy potato plants that emerged on time (planted between April 30 and May 4), there is about 40% canopy cover as of June 18. Silverton started to flower, and we saw tuber initiation on varieties such

as Russet Burbank and Dark Red Norland (picture below). Overall weather looks dry and growers need to keep running their irrigation systems to keep the soil moist during this critical growing stage.



Over the last 12 months, I worked with Dr. Deana Knuteson, director of the Healthy Grown program, and several water specialists at UW-Madison and other state and local agencies to develop an online extension course named the “Water Stewards Training Program”.

A screenshot of the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) interface for the "Water Stewards Course". The interface is displayed in a desktop view. On the left, there is a red navigation sidebar with icons for Home, Assignments, Discussions, Grades, People, Pages, Files, Quizzes, Modules, Collaborations, Chat, BB Collaborate Ultra, Course Summary, Kaltura My Media, and Kaltura Gallery. The main content area shows the course structure. At the top, there is a "Welcome to the Wisconsin Water Stewards Course" section with an "Introduction" link. Below that is "Module 1" which includes "M1. Basic terms and principles of water conservation in agriculture" and a "Module 1 Quiz" worth 5 points. The next section is "Module 2" with a prerequisite of "Module 1". It includes "M2. Water management in Wisconsin in regards to wetlands, natural landscape, and restoration ecology for farm management of landscapes" and a "Module 2 Quiz" worth 5 points. On the right side of the interface, there are buttons for "View Course Stream" and "View Course Calendar", and sections for "To Do" (Nothing for now) and "Recent Feedback" (Nothing for now).

This course is built on the CANVAS platform within the UW-Madison website, and is for self-guided-education. The six modules of the course focus mainly on water quantity issues in Wisconsin. They are:

- Module 1: Basic terms and principals of water conservation in agriculture
- Module 2: Water management in Wisconsin, overall water levels, natural landscapes and agricultural use, on-farm management of landscapes
- Module 3: New approaches to optimize water use
- Module 4: Managing Irrigation to optimize water use
- Module 5: Modeling water use: approaches and practices
- Module 6: Implementing water conservation

Water quality is also discussed in many of the modules since it is closely linked with the quantity issue. Six Certified Crop Advisor credits (4 for soil and water, 2 for sustainability) are available for participants upon completion of the course. To sign up for the course, please contact the course moderator, Deana Knuteson ([dknuteson@wisc.edu](mailto:dknuteson@wisc.edu), 608-347-8236) who will add you to the system and let you start the process.

**Amanda Gevens, Dept. Chair, Associate Professor & Extension Specialist, UW-Madison Plant Pathology, [gevens@wisc.edu](mailto:gevens@wisc.edu), Cell: 608-575-3029. <https://vegpath.plantpath.wisc.edu/>**

**Current P-Day (Early Blight) and Disease Severity Value (Late Blight) Accumulations** (Many thanks to Ben Bradford, UW-Madison Entomology; Stephen Jordan, UW-Madison Plant Pathology). A P-Day value of  $\geq 300$  indicates the threshold for early blight risk and triggers preventative fungicide application. A DSV of  $\geq 18$  indicates the threshold for late blight risk and triggers preventative fungicide application. Red text in table indicates threshold has been met/surpassed. TBD indicates that data is To Be Determined as time progresses. Weather data used in these calculations comes from weather stations that are placed in potato fields in each of the four locations. Data are available in graphical and raw data formats for each weather station at: <https://vegpath.plantpath.wisc.edu/dsv/>

<i>Location</i>	<i>Planting Date</i>	<b>50% Emergence Date</b>	<b>Disease Severity Values 6/19/20</b>	<b>Potato Physiological Days 6/19/20</b>
<b>Grand Marsh</b>	Early Apr 17	May 18	16	233
	Mid Apr 25	May 26	13	178
	Late May 6	June 1	10	137
<b>Hancock</b>	Early Apr 8	May 18	11	246
	Mid Apr 20	May 25	9	195
	Late May 4	May 30	6	158
<b>Plover</b>	Early Apr 10	May 23	12	205
	Mid Apr 20	May 30	6	151
	Late May 5	June 1	6	139
<b>Antigo</b> Station set up at airport 5/29	Early May 14	June 5	2	107.56
	Mid May 24	June 10	2	70.36
	Late Jun 1	June 17	0	22.75

We are getting close to threshold of 18 DSVs for early planted potatoes in the Grand Marsh area (16 DSVs on June 19). The accumulations for the past week were very limited due to limited moisture and high heat. PDays are nearing 300 for early planted potatoes in Grand Marsh and Hancock areas.

As a reminder the UW Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic is open for sample processing, but they cannot take walk-in samples; all must come in the mail or connect with a UW representative to have samples brought directly to the lab. We have a 1-2X weekly drop off from the UW Hancock ARS to Madison. E-mail diagnostics have been on the rise and can be very useful in narrowing causes of challenges in potato and vegetable crops. Please send pics and descriptions to me by email and we can get the dialogue going.

**National Late Blight Reports:** (<https://usablight.org/map/>) No new reports of late blight in the US over the past week. Late blight has been confirmed on tomato (FL) and potato (FL and AL) during the growing season of 2020. I will continue to monitor this national database and offer updates here in the newsletter.