Vegetables

**Vegetable Insects** - Joanne Whalen, Extension IPM Specialist; jwhalen@udel.edu

**Cucurbits** – Aphid populations continue to increase and in some cases leaf curling can be found. Treatments should be applied when 20% of the plants are infested but before leaves are curled. The only foliar materials available for aphid control on cucurbits are Lannate and Thiodan. If bees are foraging, Thiodan should be used.

**Peppers** - At the present time, all peppers that have fruit ½ inch in size or larger should be sprayed on a 7-10 day schedule for corn borer and pepper maggot control. However, in the Milford area, sprays should be applied on a 5-7 day schedule. In addition, corn earworm control is also needed on peppers in the Milford area. Since acephate (Orthene or Address) does not provide effective earworm control, Lannate or a pyrethroid should be used. When corn earworm trap catches exceed 20 moths per night in local blacklight traps, corn earworm sprays are needed on peppers. In most other areas, acephate can still be used on a 10-day schedule or Lannate, Spintor, or a pyrethroid on a 7-day schedule.

**Potatoes** – Continue to sample fields for potato leafhoppers and aphids. At this time, the aphid threshold is 10 per leaf for all early-planted fields. The potato leafhoppers threshold is 5-10 leafhoppers per 10 sweeps and/or 1 nymph per every 10 leaves.

**Lima Beans and Snap Beans** - Continue to watch fields for leafhopper adults and nymphs. The treatment threshold is 5 per sweep prebloom and 10 per sweep during bloom. In snap beans, Asana, Capture, Dimethoate, Lannate or Orthene will provide control. In lima beans, Capture, dimethoate or Lannate will provide control. If lima bean fields are in bloom, Capture or Lannate should be used. Continue to sample beans fields for spider mites showing up throughout fields. Kelthane continues to provide effective control. Processing snap beans should be sprayed at the bud and pin stages with acephate for corn borer control except in the Milford area where Capture or Asana should be added to the mix for corn earworm control. A third spray with Capture or Lannate will be needed 5-7 days from harvest. Fresh market snap beans should be sprayed on a 7-day schedule as soon as pin pods are present. Be sure to check the Crop Pest Hotline on Tuesdays and Fridays for the most recent trap catches in your area (in-state: 1-800-345-7544; out-of state: 1-302-831-8851). You can also find the most recent trap catches on our website: http://www.udel.edu/IPM/latestblt.html

**Sweet Corn** – All fresh market silking sweet corn should be sprayed on a 3-day schedule in New Castle and Kent County except in the Milford area where sprays are needed on a 2-day schedule. In Sussex County, sprays are needed on a 3-4 day
schedule. Small fall armyworm larvae can be found in pre-tassel as well as whorl stage sweet corn. As tassels emerge, small larvae will drop into the ear zone area. At the present time, if fall armyworm are present in tassels and pyrethroids are being used for earworm control, be sure to use the higher labeled rates to also control fall armyworm. If fall armyworm pressure increases, a combination of a pyrethroid plus Lannate or Spintor may be needed. In whorl stage sweet corn, a treatment will be needed if 15% of the plants are infested. Lannate, Spintor or Warrior will provide control. Remember that insecticides must be washed into the whorls and 2 treatments are generally needed for control.

**Phytophthora Blight on Pickling Cucumbers** - Ed Kee, Extension Vegetable Crops Specialist; kee@udel.edu

Reports of significant loss of pickling cucumbers have come in from two growers. Certainly, the wet conditions we have seen this year has contributed to these outbreaks. Phytophthora blight of cucurbits can occur at anytime, affecting leaves, stems, and fruit. Symptoms can include seedling damping-off, crown rot, stem lesions, foliar blight, leaf spots, and fruit rot. On pickling cucumbers, I have only seen damping off, crown rot, and fruit rot, although the other symptoms may occur.

None of the fungicides tested in several states over the years have provided the control needed. The best shot at controlling Phytophthora blight in pickling cucumbers are utilizing best management practices. When possible select fields where Phytophthora blight has never occurred. The fungus that affects cucurbits also causes blight in pepper, fruit rot in eggplant, and buckeye rot in tomatoes. Late blight in potatoes and tomatoes are caused by a different fungus.

It is known that two years rotation is not long enough. This is magnified by the nature of machine harvest pickles, with the discarding of oversize pickles and other fruit into the field. This can help the establishment and maintenance of the disease. Movement in the soil on equipment is probably an important means by which the disease is spread. Managing soil moisture to avoid saturated conditions is extremely important to prevent the disease from getting started. Minimize hardpans and plowpans by subsoiling and by not working ground when it is too wet. Raised beds can be helpful to move water away from the crop.

Excess vegetation, or leaf canopies that keep the interior of the plant shaded and wet, may also aggravate the problem. We have not seen responses to nitrogen over 100 pounds per acre in yields, so higher rates are not profitable from a yield standpoint and may encourage Phytophthora blight through excess foliage.

**Laurel Farmer's Auction Market Report**

**July 14 - 20, 2000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Produce</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37,571</td>
<td>Cantaloupes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Athena</td>
<td>0.25-1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Superstar</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,685</td>
<td>Sugar Babies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seeded</td>
<td>0.40-1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Seedless</td>
<td>1.65-3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>771</td>
<td>Honeydews</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.35-1.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28,565</td>
<td>Watermelons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crimson Sweet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 up</td>
<td>1.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 up</td>
<td>0.90-1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 up</td>
<td>1.20-2.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25 up</td>
<td>1.45-2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sangria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12 up</td>
<td>0.75-1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 up</td>
<td>1.25-1.55</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20 up</td>
<td>0.70-1.80</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25 up</td>
<td>1.65</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mardi Gras</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12 up</td>
<td>1.00-1.40</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 up</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
23 Blackberries 1.80-2.00
23 Pickles 7.00-9.00

Late Blight Update - Bob Mulrooney, Extension Plant Pathologist; bobmul@udel.edu

Disease Severity Value (DSV) Accumulations as of July 19, 2000 are as follows:
Remember that 18 DSV’s is the threshold to begin a spray program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergence Date</th>
<th>DSV’s July 19</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>5-day, mid rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 21</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>5-day, mid rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>5-day, mid rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>5-day, mid rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>5-day, mid rate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accumulated 3 DSV’s since the last report.

Since many early plantings are maturing and there is no late blight present in the area, spraying is probably not justified. Later plantings that are still growing should be protected at this time.

Vegetable Diseases - Kate Everts, Extension Vegetable Pathologist, University of Delaware and University of Maryland; everts@udel.edu

Melcast for Watermelons
EFI Values (Environmental Favorability Index)
Do not use MELCAST if there is a disease outbreak in your field, it is a preventative program. Any questions please call Phil Shields at (410) 742-8788 or e-mail: ps136@umail.umd.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>7/12</th>
<th>7/13</th>
<th>7/14</th>
<th>7/15</th>
<th>7/16</th>
<th>7/17</th>
<th>7/18</th>
<th>7/19</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bridgeville, DE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurel, DE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Collins Farms)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galestown, MD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown, DE</td>
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<td>Hebron, MD</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salisbury, MD</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Location
The first fungicide spray should be applied when the watermelon vines meet within the row. Additional sprays should be applied using MELCAST. Accumulate EFI (environmental favorability index) values beginning the day after your first fungicide spray. Apply a fungicide spray when 30 EFI values have accumulated by the weather station nearest your fields. Add 2 points for every overhead irrigation. After a fungicide spray, reset your counter to 0 and start over. If a spray has not been applied in 14 days, apply a fungicide and reset the counter to 0 and start over. The first and last day listed above can be partial days so use the larger EFI value of this report and other reports for any specific day.

If, for some reason, a serious disease outbreak occurs in your field, return to a weekly spray schedule.

More detailed information concerning MELCAST and sample data sheets are available on the web at http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/vegdisease/vegdisease.htm or http://www.udel.edu/IPM/

Field Crops

Field Crop Insects - Joanne Whalen, Extension IPM Specialist; jwhalen@udel.edu

Soybeans – Continue to sample fields for spider mites and green cloverworms. Despite the rain, mite infestation levels continue to range from a few patches in a field to high populations throughout fields. Remember that it is the humidity in combination with the rain that helps to crash mite populations. The threshold is 20-30 mites per leaflet and/or 10% of the plants exhibiting mite damage (light stippling not severe damage) over more than one-third of the leaves. Before bloom, the defoliation threshold for cloverworms is 30%. As the earliest planted soybeans approach bloom, the threshold decreases to 15-20% defoliation. A pyrethroid will provide effective green cloverworm control.

Fertilization of Grass Hay and Pasture Fields - Richard W. Taylor - Extension Agronomist, rttaylor@udel.edu

Throughout much of the state, rainfall this year has been adequate or above average. Conditions have encouraged strong growth of all the grain crops. This also holds true for grass hay and pasture fields. Unlike mixed grass and legume fields where grasses benefit from nitrogen (N) released by the companion legume crop or legume fields where the crop fixes its own N, grass hay and pasture fields need extra attention to fertilization in years where abundant rainfall ensures continued growth during the summer. To obtain the maximum production from your grass hay and pasture fields, you should fertilize them with enough N to maintain rapid, vigorous growth. Proper N fertilization, 50 lbs of N applied after each hay harvest or grazing cycle, also improves forage quality by boosting crude protein levels. Additionally, abundant rainfall can move N rapidly out of the root zone, so continued N applications after each harvest will have an even greater impact on production.

Grain Marketing Highlights - Carl German, Extension Crops Marketing Specialist; clgerman@udel.edu

Selected Highlights from USDA's July Crop Report

U.S. corn production was estimated at slightly over 10 billion bushels for the 2000 crop year with ending stocks projected at 2.182 billion bushels. With a crop this size and carry out going over the
2 billion bushel mark December corn will struggle to get back above the $2.00 per bushel mark.

USDA is projecting soybean carry out to increase substantially for the 2000-2001 marketing year to 480 million bushels as compared to 290 million bushels carried into the current marketing year. This level of carry suggests a season average price of $3.90 to $4.90 per bushel for soybeans.

The U.S. wheat production forecast was placed at 2.243 billion bushels with carry out stocks estimated at 947 million bushels. Ending stocks for U.S. wheat are just 3 million bushels below ending stocks for last year. The average price projection for new crop wheat is $2.25 to $2.75 per bushel.

The current price level for new crop corn is $1.94 per bushel; $4.57 for new crop soybeans; with September wheat at $2.45 per bushel. Weather and weekly crop condition reports will provide the stimulus for any potential immediate rallies in these markets, albeit if only slightly. Some market analysts are trying to be optimistic regarding commodity prices suggesting that the market lows are in. Unless something significant occurs, improvements seen in regard to commodity price levels will be long in coming and short lived.

The National Weather Service has now backed away from its forecast for hot, dry weather in the corn belt for the rest of the summer.

Do you feel comfortable diagnosing problems in the field?
Are you asking the right questions and looking for all the possible causes?
What should you do after the problem is diagnosed?

University of Delaware extension personnel will provide hands-on training to improve your trouble-shooting skills in soybean production. Participants will be involved with problem solving scenarios in a field setting and will be expected to help recommend corrective and preventative solutions.

Three Certified Crop Advisor Continuing Education Units (CEU) will be earned; 0.5 credit in Nutrient Management; 1 credit in Crop Management; 1.5 credits in Integrated Pest Management. Pesticide recertification credits will be earned.

- Soybean Diagnostic Field Day is open to everyone. **Prior registration is required.**
- Participation is limited to first 60 applicants. Minimum sign-up required is 15 applicants.
- Registration fee is $30.00/person.
- Registration deadline is July 20.
- Checks confirm reservations.
- To be held July 26, 2000.
- University of Delaware Research and Education Center.

Registration starts at 7:30 a.m. with coffee and donuts in the grove. Training starts at 8:15 a.m. Program will be finished by 1:00 p.m. **Lunch**
provided. Hand lens and sweep nets will be available for use if needed.

**DIRECTIONS:** Traveling north or south on Route 13 turn onto Route 9 east at Laurel. Traveling north or south on Route 113 turn onto Route 9 west at Georgetown. The Research and Education Center farm is located approximately 6 miles from Route 13 on the left and same distance from Route 113 on the right.

For More Information: Contact Mabel Hough at the University of Delaware Research & Education Center at 302-856-7303 (phone) 302-856-1845 (fax) or hough@udel.edu

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**Delaware Breeder, Hatchery & Grow-Out Conference**  
Delmar Conference Center  
Delmar, Maryland  
**September 13, 2000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7:00-7:30 am</th>
<th><strong>Registration, Exhibits</strong>, Beverages/Pastries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30</td>
<td><strong>Introductions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:35</td>
<td><em>Mycoplasma gallisepticum Update</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Dohms, University of Delaware</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td><strong>Production Issues in the New Millenium:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>A Primary Breeder Perspective of Breeder, Hatchery and Growout Issues</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Panel Discussion:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>• David Pollock, Perdue Farms Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:20</td>
<td>• Derek Emerson, Ross Breeders, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:40</td>
<td>• Jerry Moye, Cobb-Vantress, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td><strong>Questions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:10</td>
<td><em>Current Status of Delmarva Environmental Regulations</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Chlada, Perdue Farms Inc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:25</td>
<td><strong>Update on Alternative Use Options for Broiler Litter</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<td>9:25</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 10:00          | **Break, Refreshments & Exhibits**          |
| 10:20         | **Water Quality and Treatment Options**    |
|               | Charlie Hayes, Agri Solutions, Inc.        |
| 10:50         | **How De-regulation of Electricity will Influence Industry Profitability** |
|               | Thomas Dickinson, Perdue Farms, Inc.       |
| 11:10         | **Automated Chicken Catchers**             |
|               | Jim Dennis, Perdue Farms Inc.              |
| 11:30         | **Scholarship Awards**                     |
| 11:40         | **Flock Supervisors' Awards**              |
| 11:55         | **Lunch & Exhibits**                       |
| 12:45         | **Delmarva's Poultry Industry in the 21st Century: Issues and Opportunities** |
|               | Charles Allen, III, Allen Family Foods, Inc. |

| 1:15 p.m. | **Field Experiences with "Panels" in Poultry Houses** |
|           | Inma Estevez, University of Maryland        |
| 1:35      | **Nipple Drinker Replacement Programs**     |
|           | Jim Karsnitz, Peninsula Poultry Equipment Co.  |
|           | Scott Conaway, G & M Sales of Delmarva, Inc. |
| 1:50      | **Sand as an Alternative Litter: Observations and Opportunities** |
|           | Bud Malone, University of Delaware          |
| 2:10      | **Inlets: Design and Operation**            |
|           | Eileen Wheeler, Penn State University       |
| 2:40      | **Break, Refreshments & Exhibits**          |
| 3:00      | **Dark Out Housing**                        |
|           | Mike Czarick, University of Georgia         |
### BREEDER SESSION
Session Chairman
Dick Knotts, Mountaire Farms of Delaware, Inc.

#### 1:15 p.m.
**Field Experiences with "Panels" in Poultry Houses**
Inma Estevez, University of Maryland

#### 1:35
**Nipple Drinker Replacement Programs**
Jim Karsnitz, Peninsula Poultry Equipment Co.
Scott Conaway, G & M Sales of Delmarva, Inc.

#### 1:50
**On-Farm BMP's for Breeder Food Safety Issues**
Greg Rosales, Ross Breeders, Inc.

#### 2:20
**Concepts of Breeder Feeding**
Les Kreger, Chore Time, Brock

#### 2:40
**Break, Refreshments & Exhibits**

#### 3:00
**Breeder House Equipment**
Matthew Mills, Roxwell

#### 3:20
**Male Fertility and Spiking Programs**
Jerry Garmon, Ross Breeders, Inc.

#### 4:10
**Controllers**
- Experiences on Delmarva
- Bill Brown, Perdue Farms Inc.

### HATCHERY SESSION
Session Chairman
Mike Riggleman, Allen’s Hatchery, Inc.

#### 1:15 p.m.
**Improving Ventilation with Existing Equipment**
Scott Martin, Cobb-Vantress, Inc.

#### 1:45
**Step-Down Temperature Program**
Archie Northcutt, Chick Master

#### 2:15
**Importance of Scheduling Times**
Joe Mauldin, University of Georgia

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### Upcoming Events...

**Soybean Twilight Field Day - July 26, 2000**
University of Delaware, Research and Education Center

There will be a two-hour wagon tour of the soybean plots starting at 6:00 p.m. The tour will feature many of the Delaware Soybean Board funded projects. We will also review the current pest problems and discuss the potential soybean pest issues.

The program will start at 5:00 p.m. in the grove with a cookout consisting of hamburgers and hot dogs, and then we will board the wagons for the tour. To help us plan the amount of food to buy and how many cooks (agents) will be needed, please call Mabel Hough at 302-856-7303 (phone), 302-856-1845 (fax) or hough@udel.edu by Monday, July 24, if you plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you on the 26th.
Pickle Harvester Field Day - August 2

Pickle growers and related industry personnel are invited to the Pickle Harvester Field Day on August 2. Five harvesters will be on display and operating, weather permitting (Raindate – August 3). Harvesters that will be present are: FMC Self-Propelled, Raven, PikRite, PikRite Prototype, and the UD modified Wilde.

The event will begin at 4 pm, at either Clearview Farms, or Earlview Farms, near Hurlock, Maryland. The specific field will be determined as the day approaches. For more information, call Ed Kee at 302-856-7303, or email at Kee@udel.edu.

Irrigation Field Meeting Postponed

The Irrigation Field Meeting that was scheduled for August 22 has been postponed until next year. With abundant rainfall this season, the demonstration plots do not show the differences that would be of interest for a tour. The Maryland/Delaware effort in this area will continue, along with the support of the irrigation dealers.

Funding has been acquired from the Delaware General Assembly for a fulltime Irrigation Engineer to be located at the University of Delaware Research & Education Center in Georgetown. The recruiting and interview process will take place this summer and fall.

Farm & Home Field Day – August 9, 2000
University of Delaware Research & Education Center
Beginning at 8:30 a.m.

- Agronomic and Vegetable Field Tours
- Sick Plant Clinic
- Weed Identification Area
- Sussex Master Gardener Demonstrations
- 4-H Farm Animal Display
- Sussex County Safe Kid’s Day Activities
- Luncheon Program
- Demonstrations, Exhibits, Carriage Rides and Much More.

For More Information, contact Mark Isaacs or Jay Windsor at 302-856-1997 or 302-856-7303.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weather Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week of July 13 to July 19</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rainfall:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.04 inches: July 14, 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.94 inches: July 15, 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.03 inches: July 16, 2000</td>
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<tr>
<td>0.85 inches: July 19, 2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readings taken for the previous 24 hours at 8 a.m.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Air Temperature:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highs Ranged from 89°F on July 18 to 74° F on July 19.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lows Ranged from 67°F on July 18 to 58° F on July 13.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Soil Temperature:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77°F average for the week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Soil temperature taken at a 2 inch depth, under sod)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Web Address for the U of D Research & Education Center: http://www.rec.udel.edu

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