An Area Agent's Perspective on Pest and Pathogen Emergencies

Area Specialized Agent, Commercial Fruits & Vegetables
Northeast Region
NC State Extension



In General

- Farm Visits
 - problem calls Agents/Growers
 - casual calls/visits "scouting"

- Diagnostics
 - field
 - office
 - lab



In General

Timely

Accurate, Unbiased

Confidential?

Phytophthora nicotianae

- 2017 potatoes
- Late Blight look-alike
- Alerts sent out

- Less aggressive
- Contaminated seed





Cucurbit Downy Mildew

- Every year
- "Emergency"
 - cucumbers
- Tracking helps (industry)
 - general time frame
 - generally prepared



Strawberry Neopestalotiopsis

- 2018-2019 FL
- 2020-2021 GA, SC, NC
- Infected nursery source

Range of impact:
 mild – crop terminated



Guava Root Knot Nematode

- 2011 soybean, cotton
- "Emergency"
 - sweetpotato ~ 2016
- 2018 Internal Quarantine
- Extreme confidentiality



Thank you!

