

2018 – BEET RESEARCH PRIORITIES

High Priority:

Weed Control. In particular, redroot pigweed, lambsquarters, nightshades, jimsonweed, velvetleaf, ragweed and fall panicum. Maintain current chemicals and continue evaluation of new products.

Stand Establishment and Managing Size. Ways to maximize small beets and minimize large beets, including methods of suppressing large beets, varying spacing, or varieties. Better and more uniform germination. Identifying products that may delay germination or reduce stand. Challenges in NY beet size as compared to Midwest. Midwest consistently produces better size despite same seed used – why?

Reducing Decay in Beets. Includes chemical and cultural controls as well as ways to assay fields to determine decay potential.

Maintaining Foliage Health. Timing of fungicide sprays, fertility treatments or growth regulators to optimize beet tops for harvest. Registration of new mode of action fungicides for Cercospora. Organic disease control options using OMRI certified products.

Medium Priority:

New Products. Food or non-food products, especially for utilizing larger beets.

Seed Quality. Seed age, germination, and vigor.

Reduced Tillage Practices.