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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Date: April 17, 2018
RE: Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus

Contact Information:

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Modesto, California – As an advisory to Stanislaus County vegetable growers, Dr. Zheng Wang, UC Cooperative Extension Stanislaus County, Vegetable and Irrigation Farm Advisor, shared information concerning the *Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus (TSWV)* finds in Fresno County.

A notice concerning detection of the resistance-breaking strain of *TSWV* in 2018 was recently reported by Tom Turini, Fresno County Vegetable Crops Farm Advisor. The latest detection was found in March 2018 in three lettuce fields in the Cantua Creek area of Fresno County. According to Turini's report, the strain was first detected in 2016 in a fresh market tomato cultivar with resistance to *TSWV* around the Cantua Creek area. Related study results in 2016 were published in the journal of Plant Disease, the April 2017 issue. In 2017, the distribution of this new strain increased to the Huron area of Fresno County and affected both processing and fresh market tomatoes. By the end of the 2017 growing season, tomatoes in Merced and Contra Costa Counties were also affected.

This resistance-breaking strain was detected in three consecutive years on different crops. Particularly this year, detections in lettuce may provide evidence of the overwinter ability of the strain. The situation occurring in Fresno County should bring precautions to vegetable growers, especially tomato growers, in Stanislaus County to be equipped with basic knowledge concerning *TSWV* and its necessary management strategies. The University of California Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program (UC-IPMP) provides general information from disease symptoms to management throughout growing seasons. At present, discussions about different management options are still underway, according to Turini's report. Since detection occurred in a small number of fields without being reported universally, using *TSWV*-resistant varieties should remain a reliable approach. For tips on choosing *TSWV*-resistance varieties for tomato fields contact Dr. Wang or visit cestanislaus.ucdavis.edu.

More information about this resistance-breaking strain will be provided as new updates are available. Contact Dr. Zheng Wang, 209-525-6822; zzwwang@ucdavis.edu), Vegetable and Irrigation Farm Advisor, or Dr. Jhalendra Rijal, 209-525-6811; jrijal@ucdavis.edu), Area IPM Advisor, with related questions.

Tom Turini's report: http://www.tomatonews.com/en/tomato-resistance-breaking-tswv-detected-in-2018_2_330.html.

The University of California Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program (UC-IPMP) (http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/r783102211.html).

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