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## Tree Fruit News

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### Weather Data

Degree Day Accumulations (03/01 through 09/30/2014, via NEWA)		
Location	Base 43 F	Base 50 F
Peru	3371.0	2256.8
Watermill	3515.5	2331.0
Clifton Park	3531.1	2388.4
Marlboro	3788.9	2593.9
Hudson	3904.8	2709.4
Highland	3932.5	2716.7

### In this issue of Tree Fruit News:

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### Harvest Update for the Eastern New York Region

By Anna Wallis and Dan Donahue, ENYCHP

In the Champlain Valley, harvest is at its peak. Cool weather last week provided excellent color development. But over the weekend, extremely warm temperatures contributed to accelerated maturity.

Highs reached 80°F in some locations and nights were only down to 50°F. Be looking for signs of early drop! Luckily, cooler weather returned for most of this week—beautiful for picking and easier on the fruit. Rainfall has still been insignificant. Cool temperatures are expected to continue through the weekend and next week with the possibility of some rain on Saturday.

At this point most McIntosh fruit have been picked. Honeycrisp are in their 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> pick: some fruit deeper in the canopy is still fairly green and should be watched for red color development or change in background color. Cortland is beginning to see the first pick for storage. The size and color on this variety is impressive. NY-1 is showing notable variability among farms and blocks. Best maturity indicators are the standard indices (starch, pressure, Brix). But also

look for fruit elongation and reduction in green internal and background color. Waiting for tree-ripeness is important. Harvesting this new variety at peak ripeness is key for establishing it in the marketplace!

Apple harvest in the Hudson Valley has been moving forward at a fast pace. Up until October 1<sup>st</sup>, weather has been dry with no lost picking days. Enough rain fell on October 1<sup>st</sup> to stop harvest for the day, but it was only enough water to damp down the dust. Significant rainfall is being predicted for Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. McIntosh, Gala, Macoun, NY-1 and Honeycrisp are in the bin. Harvest is underway for Empires, Red Delicious, Golden Delicious and Jonagold.

Growers are generally encouraged to switch remaining Empires to regular storage at this point. Red Delicious maturity has begun to advance more rapidly than anticipated, perhaps due to the recent heat. Color is very good to excellent this year. Red Delicious for controlled atmosphere (CA) storage should be picked now, and overall, Red Delicious harvest should be pursued

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**Harvest Update for the Eastern New York Region, continued from previous page**

aggressively. NY-2 is showing excellent size and color, but eating quality could be better. Consider holding off until later next week so that farm markets will have great tasting RubyFrost for Columbus Day weekend.

There have been reports and observations of severe bitter pit in Hudson Valley Honeycrisp and Cortland. If this is the case in your orchards, once harvest is complete, please

review your spray records for the rate, frequency, and foliar product used. Contact Dan at the Hudson Valley Lab extension office if you would like to discuss your specific observations and your foliar calcium program. There have been no reports of labor shortages or issues so far this season. The crop in the Hudson Valley continues to pick out at around 80% of an “average” crop.

## BMSB Trap & Scouting Update: BMSB Trap Numbers Continue to Drop — Site Specific Management Required

*By Peter Jentsch, Cornell University Dept. of Entomology, posted to online blog September 30, 2014 available at <http://blogs.cornell.edu/jentsch/>*

Of our monitored sites, 5 orchards are above the action threshold of 10 adults per week after management. All monitored sites with the exception of Tivoli continue to decline. Adult populations along the orchard perimeter indicate residual populations of BMSB requiring further management at the first available application window.

In all but one site, and for the second straight week, we’ve seen a drop in BMSB movement to pheromone baited Tedders traps in orchards that have specifically targeted management for this insect pest. This is due to recent and effective management programs combined with BMSB populations moving to overwintering sites over the past week. BMSB adults will continue to contribute to very high numbers in the orchard if left unmanaged, primarily along the wooded edges of apple blocks, during the month of October. In previous years we have seen increasing levels of fruit feeding injury within the first 90’ from the orchard edge near woodlands through the harvest of ‘Pink Lady’ in mid-November.



Tedders trap using pheromone combination lures in peach.

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**Table below shows data for 2014 Monitoring of 7 Hudson Valley Orchards for BMSB using #10 and MDT Lures.**

[Click here](#) or click on table for larger viewing size.

Date:	Warwick			Crist - CH			Milton-West			Milton-East			Tivoli			Highland-HVL			Fishkill		
	Adults	Nymphs	Total	Adults	Nymphs	Total	Adults	Nymphs	Total	Adults	Nymphs	Total	Adults	Nymphs	Total	Adults	Nymphs	Total	Adults	Nymphs	Total
5/13	4	0	4	4	0	4	6	0	6	31	0	31	0	0	0	7	0	7	0	0	0
5/19	4	0	4	3	0	3	6	0	6	13	0	13	11	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
5/26	5	0	5	2	0	2	5	0	5	14	0	14	5	0	5	3	0	3	0	0	0
6/2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	4	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0
6/9	3	0	3	4	0	4	8	0	8	4	0	4	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0
6/16	2	0	2	3	0	3	3	0	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
6/23	2	0	2	1	0	1	5	0	5	3	0	3	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
6/30	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	7	0	0	0
7/7	1	12	13	0	2	2	1	28	29	1	11	12	0	0	0	1	11	12	1	2	3
7/14	4	11	15	0	4	4	1	9	10	1	4	5	0	0	0	1	8	9	1	3	4
7/21	1	8	9	1	0	1	0	3	3	0	5	5	1	1	2	0	11	11	0	2	2
7/28	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	0	3	3	37	40	0	2	2
8/4	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	13	15	3	57	60	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	3	3
8/11	0	4	4	1	7	8	1	12	13	3	35	38	2	1	3	1	8	9	4	2	6
8/18	0	5	5	1	6	7	2	24	26	1	68	69	2	2	4	12	186	198	2	2	4
8/25	1	3	4	2	2	4	5	48	53	8	98	106	0	4	4	38	97	135	15	19	34
9/1	8	7	15	90	40	130	134	136	270	33	143	176	5	2	7	18	0	18	11	10	21
9/8	14	22	36	52	33	85	106	94	200	45	101	146	31	22	53	39	4	43	16	14	30
9/15	11	7	18	19	2	21	51	31	82	15	27	42	24	9	33	3	2	5	7	0	7
9/22	13	4	17	12	1	13	36	9	45	15	10	25	32	14	46	0	0	0			

**BMSB Trap & Scouting Update, continued from previous page**

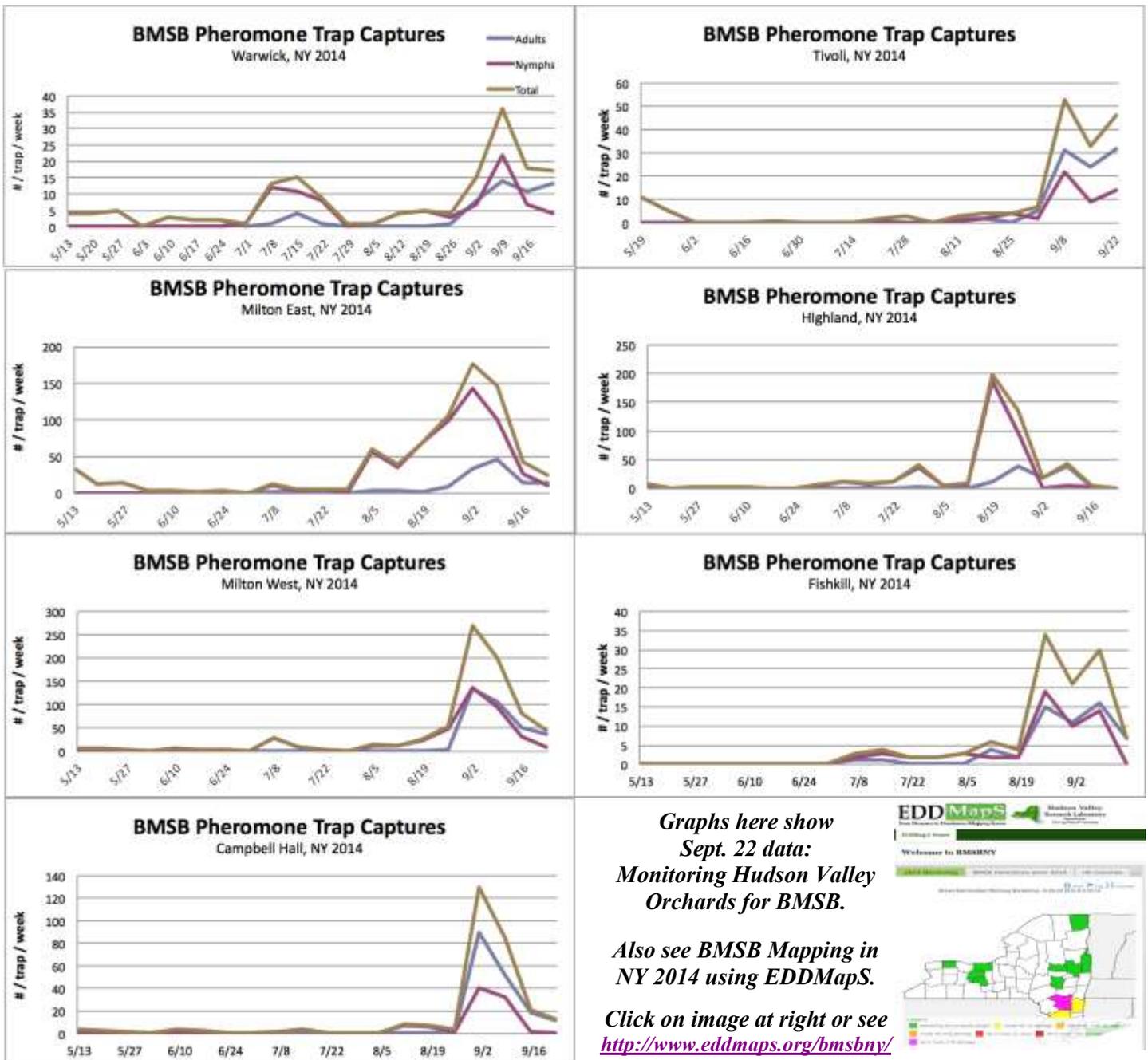
The ‘Provisional Trap Threshold’ of 10 adults per trap per week was developed by Tracy Leskey’s team at USDA ARS-W.V. The threshold provides growers with a scientific basis for management, one that we will continue to test as an action threshold this season.

As adult movement to tree fruit continues as fruit is harvested, BMSB will be drawn to remaining fruit with increasing concentrations on varieties such as Red Delicious, Golden Delicious, Cameo, Fuji, GoldRush and Pink Lady harvested over the next 6 weeks. Since the adults will be moving in and out of orchards, scouting will need to be retained to confirm their presence in late season

fruit. The insect will seek host food sources to stock up on reserves to take them through the winter while seeking and moving to urban structures and forest trees (upper canopy of dead trees with ‘flaking’ bark) as overwintering sites. Lack of substantial rainfall leading to dry conditions will likely increasing fruit injury from BMSB as the insect seeks a source for water.

**Trap Capture and Scouting Threshold:** Throughout the Hudson Valley there is a large disparity between orchards of both presence and abundance of BMSB. **In some sites management will need to intensify until the last variety is completely harvested, while in other sites BMSB will not be found in traps in numbers that warrant control**

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**BMSB Trap & Scouting Update, continued from previous page measures. In all sites scouting should also continue through the remainder of harvest.**

Using the 'Provisional Trap Threshold', if BMSB adult captures exceed 10/ trap per week, or if the insect is observed on the tree, using 1 BMSB per 100 feet of perimeter orchard linear row, applications for management of BMSB should be made. Employ the first available window using one of the most effective insecticides that will best fit your harvest schedule.

For a list of the most effective insecticides for BMSB management, [click here](#). NYS labeled insecticides effective for use against the BMSB are available in four major classes including pre-mix formulations.

Thionex and Bifenthrin are the most effective insecticides for use against the BMSB. However, at this point in the season early blocks should be managed using Bifenthrin, Danitol and Lannate (14d PHI), with later harvested

blocks employing Thionex (21d PHI). Blocks being harvested next week should use Leverage 360 (7d PHI). Boarder applications to cover most vulnerable blocks should be considered.

Bifenthrin received an emergency exemption use permit (Section 18) to control brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB) on apples, peaches, and nectarines in Orange, Dutchess and Ulster Counties of NY. Products include Bifenture and Brigade, showing the greatest degree of efficacy of the pyrethroid group. However, bifenthrin has a 30d re-application interval, a 14d PHI and 12h REI. When applying either formulation of bifenthrin for BMSB control on apples, peaches, or nectarines, growers must have possession of the Section 18 label, which can be found at <http://pmep.cce.cornell.edu/regulation/sec18/2014/index.html>.

## Candidate Search for the Research Horticulturalist Position at the Cornell Hudson Valley Research Laboratory Has Begun

A postdoctoral research associate position is available to study orchard management systems. A primary research focus will be on precision agriculture in fruit production. Research will include crop load management by chemical and hand thinning, nutritional studies via fertigation, rootstock effects on scion attributes, sweet cherry planting systems, pre-harvest stop drop and post harvest assessments. Pruning and training systems research will also include the development of management plans for a planting at the Hudson Valley Laboratory and at grower trial sites. After the first year, the position will continue as a two year renewable appointment, contingent on available funding. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Peter Jentsch at (845) 691-7151.

## GAPS Help?

If you want help with writing your GAPS plan or need to get ready for your first inspection, contact Erik Schellenberg ([jk2642@cornell.edu](mailto:jk2642@cornell.edu)). He is prepared to help you take the next steps needed to get that inspection and to be GAPS certified. This fall, we plan on having more 2-day classes, across the region for those who have yet to get started with their plans or investigating "what it takes".

Please call 845-344-1234, and ask for Erik, if you have questions or want to book an appointment with him.

## Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Website

For online class registrations, announcements, older issues of our newsletters and more, please visit the Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Team's website at <http://enych.cce.cornell.edu/>. We hope you bookmark it on your computer and begin using it as your 'go to' website for production and marketing information.

Email or call any of the educators with questions or comments on the website – we want to make it work for YOU!



## Apple Variety Taste Testing at the 3rd Annual Hudson Valley Harvest Festival

By Dan Donahue, CCE ENYCHP

Cornell Cooperative Extension, in partnership with Family of Woodstock, hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Ulster County Harvest Festival at the Ulster County Fairgrounds in New Paltz on September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. The event serves as a fundraiser for the two organizations, but more importantly, gets the word out to the general public about the positive contributions of Cornell Cooperative Extension to improving the quality of life for the residents of New York State. This year's festival was attended by approximately 3,000 enthusiastic visitors.



The ENYCH Program organized a display of our current educational and research efforts to assist fruit growers, as well as taste testing of a few apple varieties that were available at the time. Festival attendees had the opportunity to sample Snapdragon, Honeycrisp, SweeTango, Gala, and McIntosh. While hard data was not collected, our samplers were asked for their preferences. The overwhelming favorite from these five selections was SweeTango, followed by Snapdragon and Honeycrisp, with Gala and McIntosh trailing behind. The enthusiasm for SweeTango was huge. I have never experienced such a positive reaction to an apple variety. Snapdragon was also a popular choice. The Snapdragon apples used were harvested on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September; I think another few days on the tree would have resulted in even more consumer enthusiasm. The two issues that seemed to be foremost in the minds of festival attendees was their unhappiness with our market being opened to fresh apple imports from China, and concern about the GMO safety. The GMO concern was not directly related to apples, or fruit in general.



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## The Recycling Agricultural Plastics Project (RAPP)

RAPP can assist with recycling many of the plastics discarded after use in agriculture. The program has markets and guidelines for recycling maple tubing and irrigation drip tape, as well as dairy films, boat wrap, nursery pots, agricultural chemical containers, and more.

To learn just about anything you might want to know about agricultural plastics, recycling, and the New York State Recycling Agricultural Plastics Project (RAPP), check out RAPP's new facebook page. Simply search on facebook for *Recycling Agricultural Plastics Project* or <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Recycling-Agricultural-Plastics-Project-RAPP/439750762770779>.



## Upcoming Meetings

### 2014 Cornell Agribusiness Strategic Marketing Conference

***“New, Niche, and Non-Traditional Market Opportunities:  
Developing a successful and profitable relationship for all”***

**November 11-12, 2014 at The Inn on the Lake  
770 S. Main St., Canandaigua, NY 14424**

For full details on the conference schedule and topics, registration, lodging, the networking culinary dinner, and more go to [http://dyson.cornell.edu/outreach/strategic\\_marketing\\_conference.php](http://dyson.cornell.edu/outreach/strategic_marketing_conference.php). This premier conference provides in-depth discussion on topics and issues that are critical for sellers of agricultural products.

Topics this year will cover changing/adding market channels, market/product diversification from both a wholesale and direct-consumer vantage point, highlighting such practices as season extension, extending into ethnic and export markets, CSA to wholesale markets, group purchasing organizations, farm-to-institution, and CSA rebate programs.

The conference is developed with a mind towards building grower and agency skills through session topics. Sessions will include specific keys to success from both growers as well as agency personnel, such as staff from GrowNYC FARMroots, Norwich Meadows Farm, and The Good Food Collective. The presenters are individuals who are actively working to develop local farm to table distribution in the urban and rural areas of the New York and New York City area.

To round out the conference there will be a session to present detailed information on cost identification with various market channels and activities. These costs will then be utilized in pricing models for price determination so that individuals entering new markets have a thorough and complete understanding of these market opportunities and how best to balance them in their business model.

The conference features:

- Marketing insights to access ethnic markets
- Increasing marketing opportunities with non-traditional partners
- Tips when adding new and diversified market channels to your selling mix
- Price determination tutorial and research guidance to successfully price products for a market

**Exhibit Space:** Limited exhibit space is available. Please let us know if you would like to bring materials for your company or organization. Contact Carol Thomson at 607-255-5464 or email [cmt8@cornell.edu](mailto:cmt8@cornell.edu).

**Networking Dinner at the New York Wine & Culinary Center:** There will be an optional networking culinary demo dinner on Tuesday, Nov. 11 at 6pm in the Demonstration Theater at the NY Wine & Culinary Center (next door to the Inn on the Lake). The meal will consist of a three course Culinary Demo and an optional wine pairing. More information to follow.

For more information, contact Bob Weybright at 845-797-8878 or email [rw74@cornell.edu](mailto:rw74@cornell.edu).

Every effort has been made to provide correct, complete and up-to-date pesticide recommendations. Nevertheless, changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly, and human errors are possible. These recommendations are not a substitute for pesticide labelling. Please read the label before applying any pesticide. This material is based upon work supported by Smith Lever funds from the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension.

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.