



**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Lake Ontario Fruit Program
Quarterly Report
April - June 2026**

*A partnership between
Cornell University and the
CCE Associations in these five
counties:*

**Monroe, Niagara, Orleans,
Oswego & Wayne**

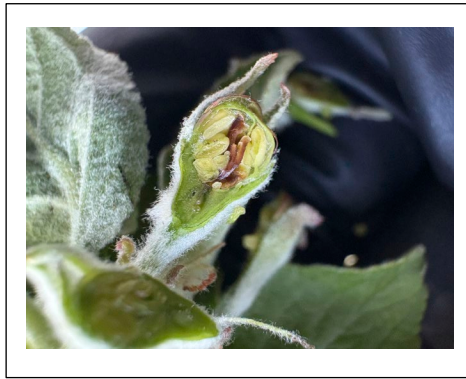
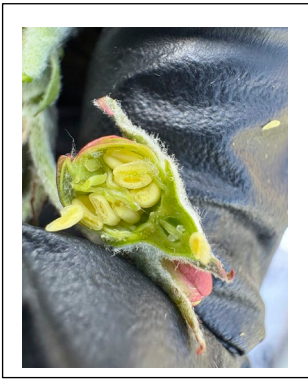
Overview: This Quarter most of the team was in the field for many days taking care of pest monitoring and working on applied research projects. Wet spring weather and varying temperatures brought about green tip on apples in the second week of April, about the “new norm”. This was about 3-6 days later than last year. Rainfall was well above average for the months of May and June, averaging 57% and 35%, respectively, across 11 weather stations in the LOF territory. June precipitation was close to average. However, there was wide variation in rainfall totals, especially in June. For example, one region had only about half while another had 50% above normal. Regardless, the early spring rains made crop protectant coverage difficult. However, as of this writing, disease incidence has been very low. As forecasts had predicted about a week prior, we experienced a freeze on two consecutive nights/mornings of April 19-21. There was some damage, but fortunately it was only in certain pockets on certain varieties. The bloom period was somewhat extended with alternating periods of cool and warm weather, with mild daytime temps on average, with cool nights. These weather patterns during the chemical thinning window for apples lead to healthy trees with strong photosynthesis. This translates to the trees being able to support a large majority of the excess fruitlets, which means little to no carbohydrate deficits or mild surpluses. When this occurs, trees do not usually respond well to chemical thinners. This can mean that oftentimes an expensive hand-thinning job is on the horizon. However, when bouts of hot weather begin to occur (often after the chemical thinning window) during mid to late June (thus this time period is called “June drop”), the trees can no longer produce enough carbohydrates to support the current crop load, so many fruitlets begin to drop. This often is a relief to growers that didn’t get good thinning chemically. We believe this is the case this season for most. All indications are that at this point, we should have a good apple crop. Stone fruit acreage continues to decline in our region. We seem to have good sweet cherry, tart cherry, and peach crops at this point. The freeze of April 19-21 affected other regions in NY and especially Pennsylvania, nearly wiping out their peach crop. Thus Western NY peaches will be in high demand this year.

Craig spent the spring and early summer setting up and performing tasks on three experiments: a return bloom study on Honeycrisp, testing of a new chemical formulation to hopefully reduce bitter pit in Honeycrisp, and the testing of a new chemical formulation’s thinning capabilities.

Janet had to advise growers on proper apple scab coverage during our very wet spring, which was conducive to infection.

Mario was setting up and conducting 3 major experiments, one of which is in the attached quarterly highlight, on the testing of variable rate spraying for precision chemical thinning of apples.

Personnel: The search for the Business Management Specialist position with LOF has been temporarily paused. For the first round of candidates (Jan-March), seven people had (virtual) screening interviews by Craig and Jen Starr, and two ended up for a second interview, consisting with additional stakeholders (2 growers) and a CCE Business Specialist (Liz Higgins from CCE-ENYCHP). A nearly equal number of people applied for the second round (May-June) but the committee agreed that no one warranted an interview. With the challenges of finding a right fit for this position in the past, and very similar experiences on the other regional Ag teams, it has been collectively decided that we are not going to hire somebody for the sake of filling a position. Craig has been working closely with the committee and some faculty at the Dyson School at Cornell to enlist help in crafting a new position description, reaching out to past students, and getting the position posted on other job boards as well.



Freeze damage evaluations on NY-2 (aka RubyFrost™). A healthy bud is on the left, followed by a damaged bud on the right.

By the Numbers:

Team Publications:	Editions:	Articles:
Fruit Notes	2	7
Email Blasts	27	NA
Fruit Facts	21	NA



Selected Publications by LOF Team	Periodical	Author(s)
<i>How to Reduce Residual Herbicide Carryover in the Orchard</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol 26, Issue 2	Basedow, van Zoeren et al
<i>Reducing Herbicide Contact to Trunks in the Orchard</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol 26, Issue 3	Basedow, van Zoeren et al
<i>Use of MaxCel on Whips to Induce Feathering in the Orchard and Scoring/Girdling with the Use of a Double-Bladed Clipper plus MaxCel to Promote Bud-Breaks on Two-Year-Old Blind Wood Sections</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol 26, Issue 2	Miranda Sazo
<i>Spotted Wing Drosophila – 2026 Update on Monitoring and Management</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol 26, Issue 3	Wallis, van Zoeren et al
<i>Practical Applications of Variable Rate Spraying of Chemical Thinners in Apples</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol 26, Issue 3	Miranda Sazo et al.
<i>Mark Your Calendars for the 2026 Cornell Fruit Field Day July 30! Cornell Fruit Field Day July 30 at Cornell AgriTech in Geneva - REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!</i>	Fruit Notes, Vol 26, Issues 2 & 3	Kahlke
<i>“Evaluating Soil Health in Commercial Apple Orchards for Improved Production Outcomes”.</i>	HortScience 61(6):1259-1266. 2026.	Aller, Miranda Sazo, et al.

Selected Presentations by LOF Team	Periodical/Meeting:	Presenter:
Co-presented with Anna Meyerhoff <i>"Special Permit Training"</i> in English and Spanish	Newark, NY April 7	van Zoeren
Co-presented with Anna Meyerhoff <i>"Special Permit Training"</i> in English and Spanish	Albion, NY April 8	van Zoeren
<i>"LOF Update"</i>	Western NY AMG Meeting, May 15, Zoom	Kahlke

Business Consultation

Specialist	Site Visits	~ Phone/Texts/Emails
Kahlke	8	300
Miranda Sazo	8	75
van Zoeren	9	125



Research

Activity/Proposal/Grant	Person(s)	Funded (Y/N) or Unfunded/ Preliminary Research (UPR)
<i>Precision Orchard Management</i>	Miranda Sazo, Kahlke, Tee	Yes-ARDP
<i>"Early Ethephon or ACC to Improve Return Bloom of Honeycrisp"</i>	Kahlke (Robinson PI)	Yes-ARDP
<i>"Modernization of Apple Processing Systems:</i>	Miranda Sazo, Kahlke, Tee	Yes- Dr. Pepper Keurig & ARDP
<i>"Pollinator Protection Program block comparison"</i>	van Zoeren, Wallis (PI)	N
<i>"SWD Attract and Kill"</i>	van Zoeren, Wallis (PI)	Y-ARDP
<i>"Statewide Orchard Support"</i>	van Zoeren, Wallis (PI)	Y-ARDP
<i>"Mating Disruption"</i>	van Zoeren, Rivera (PI)	Y-ARDP

<i>“Ambrosia beetle phenology”</i>	van Zoeren, Rivera (PI)	Y-ARDP
<i>“Nitrogen Study with Mature SnapDragon and Gala Trees</i>	Miranda Sazo (Cheng PI)	Y-ARDP

Selected Professional Development and Training

Activity	Team Member(s)	Comments:
<i>Premier Apple Forum, June 16-17.</i>	Kahlke	Syracuse
<i>Crunch Time Apple Growers Annual Meeting, June 17.</i>	Kahlke	Syracuse
<i>WEMOCO Career Fair, May 5</i>	van Zoeren, Kahlke	Monroe-Orleans BOCES, Spencerport
CCE Listening Session, April 27	Miranda Sazo, Kahlke	Irondequoit
Enrollment Discussion for Regional Ag Teams-New Website, May 21	Kahlke, Tee	Zoom
Attended “NETFIPM” weekly conversations led by Anna Wallis (April-June)	van Zoeren	Zoom
Attended “NE Berry” conversations led by Heather Kase and Anya Osatuke (April-June).	van Zoeren	Zoom
Attended “Morning Brew” conversations led by Peter Jentsch, Poma Tech (April-June)	van Zoeren	Zoom
<i>“2026 NY Soil Health Alliance”, April 28</i>	Miranda Sazo	Zoom



A flagged fruitlet cluster that will be measured after each thinning spray and fed into the Fruit Growth Rate model to predict crop load as part of a variable-rate thinning trial that is being coordinated by Mario Miranda Sazo

Fruit Quality Management – Craig Kahlke

Educational Programs/Presentations

- Presented LOF Team & Field Updates to the WNY AMG on May 15 (Zoom).
- Set up meetings, coordinated with other team members and CCE-ENYCHP, and gave Western NY phenology updates at :
 - WNY & Capital District Pink Meeting on April 21 (Zoom).
 - WNY Post-Bloom Insect & Disease Management, Freeze Updates, and Thinning Recommendations on May 13 (Zoom)
 - WNY 8-12 mm Thinning Meeting on May 27 (Zoom).
- Cornell Fruit Field Day Planning – planning has continued for the July 30th event at Cornell AgriTech, co-hosted by Cornell and Lake Ontario Ag Consulting, Inc.
 - A planning meeting was held June 18, and a lot of coordination was done via email
 - Sponsor support is strong, and registration has been open since early June.
 - A “dry run” of all tour stops is scheduled for July 24.
- Cornell Hard Cider Tour Planning
 - A multi-day tour is scheduled for July 28 (1/2 day tour and updates on hard cider research from Cornell) and July 29 (annual New York Cider Association tour) and several cideries in the Finger Lakes region.
 - Craig is a Hard Cider PWT member, and has set up the registration through our website and participated in the planning.

Publications

Fruit Notes

- Articles Written: 2 – Cornell Fruit Field Day announcements in issues 2 & 3.
- Edited 2 issues in the quarter.
- Sorted through numerous announcements about workshops/conferences/meetings/surveys and along with the pertinent on-line registration links, and put them in the newsletter.

Email Blasts

- Sorted through numerous announcements about workshops/conferences/meetings/surveys and along with the pertinent on-line registration links, put them in the email blasts.
- Sent out 26 email blasts in the quarter.

Applied Research

- ARDP-Funded Project “*Precision Orchard Management in Apple*’ (Robinson PI)
 - *Early Ethephon or ACC to Improve Return Bloom of Honeycrisp.*
 - Evaluated bloom densities from last year’s site
 - Set up a new site for this season – Niagara County
 - Flagged trees and counted flower clusters with Liz on May 7-8
 - Began return bloom sprays for
 - Early timing sprays: June 1, 13, 23
 - Late timing sprays: June 23

- ARDP/Keurig Dr. Pepper “Orchard Systems and Rootstocks for Improved Yield and Fruit Quality” (Robinson PI)
 - Co-Organizing a field day tour of the Verbridge Williamson site for August 11 (with Keurig-Dr. Pepper)
 - Set a date and itinerary
 - Liz took pictures of the Breslawski Hamlin site to share at the luncheon after the field tour
- ARDP “Determining the role of fruit growth rate and climate on scarf skin and late russet disorders in NY1” (Londo PI)
 - Planned collection with organizers through email
 - Began choosing the 15 blocks in Niagara and Orleans counties for the sampling starting in mid-July
- Fine Americas
 - Working with the chemical company Fine Americas to test two of their products
 - 6BArel® – a new 6-BA plant growth regulator product to test thinning
 - Set up a thinning trial with a grower in Orleans county
 - Flagged trees, performed cluster counts
 - Worked with the grower to put out multiple (3 thinning sprays)
 - Precision thinning measurements (3 times)
 - Bitter Pit Suppression Trial on Honeycrisp
 - With Refine®, an NAA plant growth regulator product
 - Secured a site in Orleans county
 - Made flower measurements, flagged trees
 - Made first application in mid-June
- NERME Progressive Discipline funded project
 - This was a project that Bonnie did not complete before she left
 - Dr. Rich Stup agreed to be the new PI, and put in the paperwork with USA
 - Dr. Lucas Smith (Stup’s program) and Liz Higgins (CCE-ENYCHP) are cooperators
 - Had a planning meeting June 2 to set the topics for each November webinar

Team and Other Duties

- Team Leader Administrative Duties
 - Approved invoices and vouchers as needed.
 - Reviewed budget and monthly financials.
 - Approved timesheets/vacation/sick leave hours for team members as needed.
 - Disseminated pertinent info to rest of team as needed from:
 - Team Leader Zoom™ calls on April 13 & June 18
 - Group and other email lists.
 - With the search committee, sorted through the second round of candidates that have applied for the Business Management Specialist position with LOF
 - It was determined that none of the candidates were qualified enough to warrant a screening interview
 - We are re-evaluating next steps.
 - Organized and led team meetings on Apr 17 (Zoom), May 14 (CCE-Orleans), and June 10 (CCE-Oswego). Robert Batt, Paul Forestiere, and Josh Vrooman all gave county updates in May and June.
- Co-organized an in-person Team Meeting and Farm Visits on June 10 in Oswego County

- Josh Vrooman (Ag Resource Educator for CCE-Oswego) organized a tour of 3 farms and brief meetings with growers.
 - We had a short team meeting at CCE-Oswego in Mexico in the afternoon. We met with Josh and ED Paul Forestiere to get updates on happenings in their organization.
- Attended WNY AMG (Zoom) on May 15
 - Gave team & field updates
- Quarterly PSA Steering/Executive Committee June 22 (Zoom)
- Submitted January-March 2026 quarterly report.

Professional Development

- Attended the Premier Apple Forum on June 16-17 in Syracuse.
 - Networked and ran slide projector/loaded presentations.
- Attended the Crunch Time Apple Growers Annual Meeting on June 17 in Syracuse.
- Attended the WEMOCO Career Fair at Monroe-Orlean BOCES in Spencerport on May 5. Spoke with potential graduating students interested in Ag careers.
- Attended the CCE Listening Session on April 27 in Irondequoit.

Stakeholder Contacts

- Assisted stakeholders via texts (~145), phone (~60), and email (~95).
- 8 Farm Visits (5 Niagara, 3 Orleans).

Grant Submissions, Re-Submissions, Letters of Support, Proposal Meetings

- Contributed to SAS grant (PI-Juliana Wilson (MSU)).



A sweet cherry orchard in full bloom in Niagara County in early May.

Horticulture – Mario Miranda Sazo

Educational Programs/Presentations

SCRI SPARC – Virtual Orchard Meetup Webinar Series:

- This Q2 we worked on the USDA-SCRI SPARC project on temperature extremes (heat and cold). In partnership with the International Virtual Orchard Meetup group, we planned, organized, and delivered a webinar series on three consecutive Thursdays: June 11, 18, and 25 (7:00–8:30 PM EST).
- Title of the 2026 webinar series: ‘Managing Climate Stress in Fruit Production: Sun Injury, Ripening Disorders, and Post-Harvest Quality in North American Orchards.’
 - Thursday, June 11: Physiological Impacts, Forecasting, and Monitoring Tools.
 - Thursday, June 18: Mitigation Strategies, Timing, and Tradeoffs
 - Thursday, June 25: Managing Fruit After Heat Exposure: Maturity, Storage, and Disorders
- For the Webinar on June 11, I invited Dr. Samantha Borisoff, Climatologist, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Science, Northeast Regional Climate Center, Cornell University
- For the webinar on June 18, I invited Chief Research Officer Mr. Brad Palmer from Reality Research LLC, Lyons, Wayne County.

Other Presentations Given – Invited Presentation:

- Because the audio quality of the Zoom recording from the in-person pruning presentation delivered to Spanish-speaking employees in Michigan (March 28) was inadequate, I repeated the Zoom recording with Emily Lavelly (MSU) on April 28. The new audio, together with the original presentation slides, will be incorporated into a MSU Spanish-language pruning video scheduled for release next winter.

Publications

CCE LOF Fruit Notes newsletter: Wrote/modified/summarized/requested articles including:

- “Use of MaxCel on Whips to Induce Feathering in the Orchard and Scoring/Girdling with the Use of a Double-Bladed Clipper plus MaxCel to Promote Bud-Breaks on Two-Year-Old Blind Wood Sections” (M. Miranda Sazo). Lake Ontario Fruit Newsletter, pages 6-7, Vol. 26, Issue 2.
- “Practical Applications of Variable Rate Spraying of Chemical Thinners in Apples” (M. Miranda Sazo, Y. Jiang, M. Curetti, L. Gonzalez and T. Robinson). Lake Ontario Fruit Newsletter, pages 8-10, Vol. 26, Issue 3.

CCE LOF Fruit Facts:

- In addition to providing recommendations on new orchard establishment and early-season orchard management, the CCE Lake Ontario Fruit Facts publication distributed a substantial amount of information on cold injury to growers. The materials included summary tables of minimum temperatures recorded across the region, assessments of cold injury, and management recommendations. These recommendations also incorporated guidance from Professor Robinson on crop load adjustment and thinning decisions following the freeze events.

- The major topics covered during the quarter are summarized chronologically in the table below.

Main CCE LOF Fruit Facts topics published during Q2.

Date sent to growers	Main topics related to the freeze events
4-20-26	Potential inversion and use of wind machines, lowest temps registered, and number of hours below 30F.
4-23-26	Assess frost damage in apple buds (see photos on page 2).
4-28-26	Comprehensive CCE LOF bud damage assessment is presented today.
5-3-26	Accurate cold damage maps (review sketch) can help you guide chemical thinning decisions later.
5-5-26	Could the use of Promalin still help fruit set in frost-damaged apple flowers? What a challenging season we are facing in 2026. Communication about the use of Promalin between Professor Robinson and a grower with frost damage.
5-14-26	Significant frost damage at tight cluster to pink. How to deal with frost damage. How to know how much thinning you achieved from the frost or blossom and petal fall sprays. Problems with frost damaged fruit that chemical thinning won't solve. Good to Know: Mario's thoughts on the current status of the cold damage.
5-20-26	How to deal with frost damage. Problems with frost damaged fruit that chemical thinning won't solve.
5-28-26	It is essential to assess the severity of the frost damage and fruit set. Suggestions for thinning based on severity of the frost damage and set.

Peer-reviewed publication(s)

- “Evaluating Soil Health in Commercial Apple Orchards for Improved Production Outcomes”. Deborah Aller, Joseph P. Amsili, Michael Basedow, Mario R. Miranda Sazo, Janet E. van Zoeren, Dan Donahue, Gregory M. Peck, Harold M. van Es. HortScience 61(6):1259-1266. 2026.
<http://doi.org/10.21273/HORTSCI19351-26> This manuscript was submitted to HortScience journal on February 23, accepted for publication on April 17, and published online on May 13 of this Q2
- During Q2 (June 24), we also submitted a short communication article to the *Phytopathology* journal titled ‘Seasonal Variation in Virus Dynamics in a New York Apple Orchard’ by Anna O. Wunsch, Janet van Zoeren, Mario Miranda Sazo, and Marc Fuchs. The manuscript is currently under revision.

CCE LOF YouTube Videos – Other social media efforts and collaborations

- Recordings of the Post-Bloom Insect & Disease Management, Freeze Updates, and Thinning Recommendations webinar (May 13) and the WNY 8-12 mm Thinning Recommendations webinar (May 27) were posted by Liz Tee to the CCE YouTube channel during Q2.
- Liz and I also began recording a series of short bilingual pruning videos, which will be edited and released during the winter of 2027. We conducted two filming sessions at Kast Farms and one at Toussaint Farms in Orleans County on April 1-2. An initial review of the recorded footage was completed on April 24.
- During June, Liz also devoted a significant amount of time supporting our Virtual Orchard Meetup Group, a collaborative international extension effort involving Canadian extension specialists and other extension colleagues from WSU, MSU, Cornell, and PSU. As part of this effort, she posted the 2026 Virtual Orchard Meetup webinar series on the CCE YouTube channel:

- 2026 Webinar Playlist
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYLbxsK4pTXUmMjRBk58rwJBh_HXprK8y.

Applied Research Projects/Collaborations

On-farm Rootstock/Training Systems (Motts/Robinson and LOF team)

- Gave thinning recommendations in both sites
- Improved tree training of tops and fixed conduit pipe support with Liz Tee at the Verbridge trial on May 19.
- We are now planning a summer tour event with Motts growers at the Verbridge site in Wayne on Tuesday, August 11.

Preparing U.S. pome fruit production for extreme temperatures in a changing climate – SCRI funds (Lee Kalcsits, WSU)

- A significant amount of planning, preparation, and coordination was required with several colleagues on this project and a few external collaborators.
- This quarter, we partnered with the International Virtual Orchard Meetup group to host a webinar series on three consecutive Thursdays: June 11, 18, and 25 (7:00–9:30 PM EST).
- Title of the 2026 webinar series: ‘Managing Climate Stress in Fruit Production: Sun Injury, Ripening Disorders, and Post-Harvest Quality in North American Orchards.’
 - Thursday, June 11: Physiological Impacts, Forecasting, and Monitoring Tools.
 - Thursday, June 18: Mitigation Strategies, Timing, and Tradeoffs
 - Thursday, June 25: Managing Fruit After Heat Exposure: Maturity, Storage, and Disorders
- For more details, see above the section titled ‘*SCRI SPARC – Virtual Orchard Meetup Webinar Series*’

Nitrogen study with mature SnapDragon and Gala trees (ARDP’s funds, L. Cheng)

- The objective of this long-term study is to provide to each cultivar 6 levels of N supply from 0 to 150 lbs of actual N per acre at an increment of 30 lbs based on the previous work on ‘Gala’ trees grown in containers, with each N treatment replicated 5 times, in a randomized complete block design.
- This Q2, N applications were conducted to research plots on April 22, May 6, May 19, and June 9.
- The last N application is scheduled for the first week of July.

PCLM (ARDP’s funds, Robinson)

- Please refer to the highlight titled ‘Practical Applications of Variable Rate Spraying of Chemical Thinners in Apples’ submitted for this Q2

Team and Other Duties

- Attended LOF team meetings and conference calls as needed
- Attended in-person/zoom meetings as needed for the planning of:
 - A Motts summer tour stop at the Verbridge site on August 11
 - 2026 Geneva field day
 - 2026 SCRI SPARC – Virtual Orchard Meetup Webinars
 - Regional Team CCE listening session in Rochester – April 27

- CCE LOF farm visits in Oswego – June 10
- Met with Kristen DeMarree, Bobby Brown, Jason Woodworth, Terence Robinson, Bert Rijk (AUREA) and Mariela Curetti (visiting scientist) for three on-farm variable rate chemical thinning trials – zoom and in-person conducted early in the spring
- Met with Robinson, Cheng, Jiang, Londo, Craig, Mike Basedow, and invited WNY growers to collaborate through the Cornell Future of American Agriculture Initiative – multiple dates for a submission of research proposals on August 5
- Submitted reference list for reappointment package to Jen Starr – May 20
- Helped Jason Londo to prune apple trees at Cornell AgriTech – April 13
- Attended Peter Landre’s retirement celebration in Ithaca – April 9
- Drafted an advocacy letter to CALS supporting the replacement of Professor Robinson’s position – This remains an ongoing effort by CCE-LOF
- Fixed computer with Ron Pool on May 29 and with Mark Casasanta on July 10
- Hosted the new soil scientist Jeff Beem-Miller in Wayne County and sampled a few orchards – June 12
- Provided several hort-notes to Janet van Zoeren for the final publication of the CCE-LOF Fruit Facts
- Reported fleet mileage as needed during this quarter, changed oil, changed tires, etc.
- Authored and submitted two articles to LOF newsletter editor this Q2
- Submitted Jan-March 2026 quarterly report
- Liaised mainly with Sonia Hall (WSU) and Emily Lavelly (MSU) for the 2026 Virtual Orchard Meetup Series

Professional Development

- Attended 2026 NY Soil Health Alliance meeting via Zoom – April 28

Stakeholder Contacts

Assisted 8 growers/farm employees (5 Orleans, 3 Wayne counties), also via 15-20 emails, 20 phone communications, 30-40 texts (pics, videos, voice messages, etc.).

Grant Submissions, Re-Submissions, Letters of Support, Proposal Meetings

- Contributed to SAS grant (PI-Juliana Wilson (MSU)).



A row of Idared grafted onto Cornell rootstock G.969 in a high density system as part of the Keurig-Dr. Pepper & ARDP-funded “*Orchard Systems and Rootstocks for Improved Yield and Fruit Quality*” trial at a site in Monroe county.

Integrated Pest Management – Janet van Zoeren

Educational Programs/Presentations

- Co-presented with Anna Meyerhoff “Special Permit Training” in English and Spanish, Newark NY, Apr 7.
- Co-presented with Anna Meyerhoff “Special Permit Training” in English and Spanish, Albion NY, Apr 8.
- “Special Permit Training” in English, Williamson NY Apr 24.

Publications

Fruit Facts Issues Written:

- 16 Issues

Fruit Notes Articles Written:

- Basedow, M., L. Sosnoskie, M. Gannett, T. Besancon, and **J. van Zoeren**. *Reducing Herbicide Contact to Trunks in the Orchard*. Fruit Notes, Volume 26, Issue 3. P 3-5.
- Wallis, A., **J. van Zoeren**, A. Stansell and H. Kase. *Spotted Wing Drosophila – 2026 Update on Monitoring and Management*. Fruit Notes, Volume 26, Issue 3. P 6-7.
- Sent 2 email blasts

Fruit Quarterly Articles Written:

- Basedow, M., **J. van Zoeren**, J. Stanton, and E. Tee. *Comparison of Different Timings of Stinger (Clopyralid) on Cirsium arvense (Canada Thistle) and Other Broadleaf Orchard Weeds Under New York Field Conditions*. Fruit Quarterly, Volume 34, Number 1. P 13-18.

Applied Research Projects/Collaborations

- Project “*Pollinator Protection Program block comparison*” (PI-Anna Wallis)
 - Help with pest surveys (Wayne county – May 29)
- NY Farm Viability funded Project “*SWD Attract and Kill*” (PI-Anna Wallis)
 - Deploy Biomagnet Ruby and monitoring traps (Orleans county – May 11)
- ARDP funded Project “*Statewide Orchard Support*” (PI-Wallis)
 - Weekly monitoring network trap check (Orleans and Wayne counties – Apr-June)
- ARDP funded Project “*Mating Disruption*” (PI-Rivera)
 - Hang CM/OFM mating disruptors (Orleans county – Apr 13)
 - Hang CM/OFM mating disruptors (Wayne county – Apr 14)
 - Hang DWB mating disruptors (Orleans county – May 11)
 - Hand DWB mating disruptors (Wayne county – May 12)
 - Check monitoring traps in disrupted and control blocks (Wayne county – Apr-June; Orleans county – May-June)

- ARDP funded Project “*Ambrosia beetle phenology*” (PI-Rivera)
 - Set out traps (Orleans county – Apr 13)
 - Collect samples from Orleans county and deliver to Rivera lab (Apr-June)

Team and Other Duties

- Served as Fruit Program Working Team Co-chair.
- Served on Great Lakes Fruit Workers meeting planning committee.
- Helped to plan and coordinate “Statewide Pink Meeting”.
- Coordinated and applied for DEC credits for Geneva field day.
- Tabled for LOF at BOCES job fair (May 5; Spencerport NY).
- Attended Niagara county CCE board meeting (May 18).
- Attended team meetings.

Professional Development

- Attended “NETFIPM” weekly conversations led by Anna Wallis (April-June).
- Attended “NE Berry” conversations led by Laura McDermott and Anya Osatuke (April-June).
- Attended “Morning Brew” conversations led by Peter Jentsch, Poma Tech (April-June).

Stakeholder Contacts

- Made 9 site visits to assist growers (3 Orleans, 1 Monroe, 4 Wayne, 1 Oswego; 1 new contact).
- Assisted stakeholders via texts, phone, and email (123).

Other Area-Wide Education and Advocating

- Coordinated fit test clinic and provided Spanish translation service (Wayne county; April 10).
- Helped to coordinate and facilitate “Pest ID trainings” (programming provided by Anna Wallis, Raul Lemus-Garza and Ximena Gonzalez from Cornell IPM)
 - May 27 at Two of Clubs (Niagara county) programming provided in Spanish
 - May 27 at Orchard Dale (Orleans county) programming provided in Spanish
 - May 27 at Hurd Orchard (Orleans/Monroe county) programming provided in Spanish
 - May 28 at G+S Orchard (Wayne county) programming provided in Spanish
 - May 28 at KC Bailey Fruit Farm (Wayne county) programming provided in Spanish
 - May 28 at VandeWalle Fruit Farm (Wayne county) programming provided in English
- Organized and presented at Twilight Meetings
 - Apr 30 at Schutts Apple Mill in Monroe county
 - May 28 at Fruit Valley Farm in Oswego county
- Coordinated entomopathogenic nematode demo plots for Plum Curculio management (1 in Orleans county; 1 in Wayne county).
- Helped facilitate strawberry disease diagnostic testing and fire blight testing for WNY growers.