



## **“Fruit Facts” – Wednesday, June 8 2022**

### **Next Week Send Your Key Spanish-speaking employees to the ‘Premier Spring Spanish Fruit School’ – Friday, June 17, 2022 from 12:00 PM- 4:30 PM**

**Location: CCE Orleans County Office, 12690 NY-31, Albion, NY 14411**

Join the Cornell Small Farms Program, CCE Lake Ontario Fruit Program and NYS Integrated Pest Management for a Spanish Language Field day! More details in the coming issue of LOF newsletter and via Fruit Facts in the next week.

**Open event - No registration required!**

**For more details in the Spanish language:** <https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/2022/06/los-dias-de-campo-en-espanol-crecen-en-el-oeste-de-nueva-york-y-mas-alla/>

**For more details in the English language:** <https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/2022/06/spanish-language-field-days-grow-in-western-new-york-and-beyond/>

## **IPM Notes...Janet van Zoeren**

**Fire Blight** continues to show up in orchards across the region. Even if you timed all your sprays perfectly and used all the recommend products, the combination of high inoculum from last years outbreaks, along with ideal weather conditions for *E. amylovora*, AND on top of that many orchards continuing to show rattail bloom even now... means no one is guaranteed to be in the clear this year. If you find oozing shoots, apply a labeled liquid copper (i.e. Previsto, CS 2005, Cueva, Badge SC) product to dry out the ooze. If you have a lot of FB in a block, you may want to consider applying prohexadione-calcium (i.e. Apogee, Kudos) at the highest rate for the planting (6-12 oz/100 gal, or 3-6 oz/100 gal for young orchards). This will shut down shoot growth, but may save the tree. Allow 5 days for the product to take effect, then prune out any shoot blight strikes.

Avoid additional streptomycin applications for the rest of the season, to save them in case of hail or other trauma blight infection. **If you have any reason to believe you may have Strep resistance in your orchard, please contact me (contact info below) to have it tested.** Even if you don't suspect resistance, I'd be happy to collect a sample to send for sampling; more data points will help us better understand the genetics and how the bacteria spreads.

**Scab** lesions have been seen in isolated, high-pressure orchards. On the whole, most blocks seem to have kept scab primary infection fairly well under control this season. If you do see scab lesion and we move into a potential secondary scab infection period, best management options are the single-site products such as Aprovia, Cevya, Flint, Fontelis, Inspire Super, Luna Tranquility, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Miravis, Rally, Rhyme, etc.

**Powdery mildew** is quite prevalent in locations where it has been a problem historically. Continue to cover for PM approximately every 14 days until terminal bud set, rotating models of action. Options for PM include **Flint extra, Inspire Super, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Miravis, Rally, Sovran** and others.

**Internal leps.** We are at or beyond the target window for larvicide applications for both OFM and CM. If you haven't yet put a "worm spray" on, do so now.

**European Corn Borer.** Begin scouting young plantings (especially nurseries) for browning leaves and dying terminal shoots. ECB is a sporadic pest but can be devastating when it does show up if not caught early. Cover sprays will control ECB in bearing blocks, so focus on scouting non-bearing and nursery blocks. More info can in Peter Jentsch's [June 2020 blog post](#).

**Dogwood borer.** Now that we no longer have Lorsban in the toolbox, the best management option of dogwood borer will be

mating disruption. Setting out disruptors now will have some efficacy, although flight began last week and moths that are already mated will of course escape the disruption. The best option to knock back DWB adults would be to two coarse applications of Assail, one this week and another in late July or early August.

**San Jose Scale** crawlers are moving. Ideally, monitor for the bright-orange crawler emergence using black sticky tape (inside out electrical tape) on a branch of an infested tree to time your application for the beginning of crawler activity. Esteem, Centaur, Imidan, Admire Pro, Assail, Voliam Express, Endigo ZC, and Leverage 360 are effective products. You will likely need a follow up application 7 to 10 days later. A review of SJS management can be found in Peter Jentsch's 2017 [blog post](#).

**Mites.** Consider scouting the underside of leaves for European red mite. If you find high populations, there are a bunch of highly effective products you can use: Agri-Mek, Apollo, Onager, Savey, Zeal, Kanemite, Nexter, Portal, Acramite, Envidor, Nealta, or Banter. If you already applied for ERM, be sure to rotate to a new IRAC code.

## Pear.

**Pear psylla.** If you had any signs of psylla this spring, continue monitoring through the summer. For summer monitoring, examine ~ 10 recently expanded shoot leaves per tree on ~5 trees per block. The action threshold during the summer is an average of 1.5 nymphs per leaf. We recommend you remove water sprouts from your pears trees in late June in blocks susceptible or at threshold for psylla. This will remove their best summer food source, keeping populations in check. If a spray is necessary, be aware that most of the products that are effective against psylla will have off-target effects on natural enemies, so be aware of you the costs and benefits.

**Fabraea leaf spot.** If you have had Fabraea in your peach block previously (note Bosc is especially susceptible), you will want to keep trees covered now through July 4<sup>th</sup>. Options include Topsin M, Ziram, Manzate and Syllit.

## Stone Fruit.

**Peach Diseases (rusty spot, bacterial spot, brown rot).** Captan, Miravis, Inspire Super, and Merivon will control brown rot and peach scab. Be sure to rotate active ingredients to delay resistance. The addition of a copper (i.e. Cueva) will help blocks with a history of bacterial spot.

**Any questions about pest management, please call or email me: [jev67@cornell.edu](mailto:jev67@cornell.edu), 585 797 8368.**

## *Horticultural Notes...Mario Miranda Sazo*

**Last week to assess if additional thinning is still needed:** To assess for yourself if additional thinning is needed measure fruitlet diameters 2 times over a 4 day period and use the fruit growth rate model. If you cannot use the model then an alternative is to **count fruit on five representative trees counting only those fruits that are large and appear to be growing fast.** Most of the smaller fruit will fall off in the next week.

- If on five trees your crop load is currently **more than 2 times** your target number or higher, a rescue spray is warranted
- If on five trees your crop load is currently **1.5 to 2 times** your target number, then use your best judgement as to whether you need to spray again or not.
- If on five trees your crop load is **less than 1.5 times** your target number, do not spray a rescue thinner

**Growers should start Ethrel sprays for return bloom for strongly biennial bearing cultivars like Honeycrisp and Fuji this week:**

*Dr. Robinson's suggestions for June 2022*

- Start the first Ethrel spray when fruits are 16-18mm (approximately 21 DAFB). Estimated best timings are June 6-9 for inland sites and late this week/during the coming weekend for lake sites in WNY
- Spray a dose of ½ pt. Ethephon per acre
- Do not spray if temperature will be over 80's on the day of spray or the next 2 days
- It is Ok to mix with CaCl2 spray for bitter pit
- All Honeycrisp and Fuji should receive these Ethephon sprays even those with a light crop (the low dose and avoiding high temperatures will result in no thinning even on light cropping trees)

- After the first spray at 7–10-day intervals apply 3 more Ethephon sprays but with a higher dose of 1 pt./acre.
- Make sure the last Ethephon spray goes on by July 1
- After July 1, I suggest adding some NAA (4oz/acre) to each spray put on in July.

**Grower comments, concerns, and/or hesitation to use ethephon in some Honeycrisp blocks (also Fuji) that had light/low bloom in 2022 and that may have good return bloom in 2023:**

- We are concerned that spraying for repeat bloom (with ethephon in June 2022) in light blocks will just make next year (2023) too heavy, and also be wasteful. Wouldn't you rather have a **steady 70% bloom** for instance?

**Cornell research-based response:**

- Yes - we prefer 70% bloom over snow ball bloom but it would be worse to have **2 successive years with no bloom which sometimes happens**. We prefer to ensure good return bloom since Honeycrisp and Fuji sometimes disappoint 2 years in a row.

**Growing and safely 'pushing' a cultivar the rest of the 2022 growing season.** A young Honeycrisp tree is less forgiving than Gala. To grow a weak Honeycrisp tree you have to support, prune, leave horizontal shoots, and single the leader.

- Remove extra shoots at the terminal (always leave a stub of two-three fingers length, do not rub the buds below the ring) and divert the growing effort on the central leader (see below pics taken before and after the clipping of 2-3 competitive terminal shoots)
- You can still remove any large lower limb that is out of balance with the rest of the texture of the canopy
- Prune out anything that is **too long, too thick, or too narrow** (remember the use of the 3 "Ts")
- Always leave longer stubs to secure renewal (critical for Honeycrisp).
- In some cases, renewal pruning needs to be "accelerated" on Honeycrisp. Removing the largest bottom branch from this slow-growing tree will divert energy to the growing terminal. The same pruning techniques are applicable for NY-1, or other weak cultivars.
- First grow the tree then crop it!



Before pruning



After pruning

Strawberry season is just around the corner. Strawberries have a thin skin, and diseases such as gray mold can easily grow through that skin and cause market losses. While the primary way that gray mold enters a strawberry patch is through the open blossoms, we can prevent its spread after fruit set by limiting contact between moldy berries and ripe berries.

As berries are harvested, future disease in the patch can be limited by having two harvests, or assigning different tasks to members of the harvest crew. First, pass through a row and try to harvest only the marketable berries. Wearing disposable gloves can be particularly helpful in case a moldy berry is unintentionally handled. The moldy berry can be placed in a separate bucket for rots, and the gloves changed out for new ones. After the ripe and marketable berries are harvested, pass through the row again and remove any moldy, pecked, or bug-infested berries. Removing these berries second can prevent juices from dripping onto ripe berries.

Harvesting berries is a labor-intensive task, and incorporating a second harvest isn't likely to pay off in U-pick strawberry fields. If you can answer yes to several of these questions, consider allocating extra time to manually remove moldy and damaged berries from your fields.

- 1) Do you expect an increase in profits from berries that can last longer and/or ship to a farther location?
- 2) Have fruit rots been an issue on your farm in the past year?
- 3) If the berries are Junebearers, have you applied more than 30 lbs/acre of nitrogen fertilizer this spring?
- 4) Are you harvesting a variety such as AC Wendy that is likely to give multiple good harvests throughout the early season?
- 5) Does your field have wind blowing perpendicular to the rows, increasing chances of mold spores blowing into rows with later varieties?

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 still possible. These recommendations are not a substitute for pesticide labeling. Please read the label before applying any pesticide. Copyright 2022. All rights reserved. No part of this material may be reproduced or redistributed by any means without permission. Cornell Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities.

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