LOF Summer Tour 2022

Join us tomorrow Tuesday August 9th for the 2022 CCE LOF Summer Tour!

The use of technology in precision crop load management will be highly featured on several stops. In addition, pest/disease management and horticulture will also be covered. There will also be a berry stop (blueberries). The tour begins with registration and programming at the first stop at 8 AM and finishes at the final stop at approximately 4:45 PM. An ice cream social is being planned immediately following at the last stop. 1.75 NYSDEC credits will be offered in categories 1A, 10, and 22.

Bring hats, umbrellas, sunscreen, and chairs.

Pre-registration is required for lunch counts. Please pre-register here: https://lof.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration_new.php?id=1669.

This is going to be an excellent tour – don’t miss it! Full agenda is attached to this email.

Farm Ops Offering Veteran Scholarships for Soil Health Field Days (including LOF Summer Tour)

This scholarship supports a veteran’s attendance to one of the nine field days being offered in July and August 2022, including our LOF summer tour. Veterans may request reimbursement for mileage in addition to a $100 participation stipend to offset related costs.

Eligibility: the scholarship recipient must be a U.S. military veteran, including those currently serving.

More information can be found at: https://www.newyorksoilhealth.org/2022/06/29/veteran-training-scholarships-available-for-2022-soil-health-and-climate-resiliency-field-days/

IPM Notes...Janet van Zoeren

Oriental Fruit Moth and Codling Moth second generation flights are in full swing. If you catch more than the management threshold (5 codling moth per trap per week; 10 OFM per trap per week), this week is good timing for a larvicide. So far most of the sites we are trapping at are currently under threshold. If you do apply an insecticide, remember to use a different mode of action to control this generation than you did in the spring! If populations are right around the threshold, consider rotating to a softer product such as Cyd-X (only effective on CM), Madex, or Virosoft.

More traditional pesticide options include Altacor, Assail, Delegate, Exirel, Minecto Pro, and Verdepryn. Assail will also provide control of Woolly apple aphid and apple maggot.
Fire blight shoot blight infection events become less likely as we reach terminal bud set in many varieties. However, any trees that are still pushing may be susceptible to a shoot blight infection event this week with the forecasted rainy/stormy weather today and tomorrow.

Rots are showing up across the region. Black rot, white rot and bitter rot are now our main focus as we move toward harvest. Fungicide covers for the rots go on every 14-21 days. Products that are effective for black and white rots include Flint, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Pristine, Sovran, and Captan+Topsin. Best products for bitter rot include Captan, Ferbam, Inspire Super, Prophyt, Topsin M, and Ziram.

Sooty blotch and flyspeck applications can be timed using the NEWA model (newa.cornell.edu). Products that are effective for SBFS include Flint, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Pristine, Sovran, and Captan+Topsin.

For more information about the summer diseases, check out the NYS IPM Apple IPM Intensive recording (begins at 7:45min), or the following webinar recordings from ENY CHP and Srdjan Acimovic: Bitter Rot, Sooty Blotch and Fly Speck, Black Rot and White Rot.

The weather has been perfect for mites. Although I have not yet seen them at threshold levels, keep an eye out and keep checking your most susceptible varieties. Don’t get caught unaware. A recommended sampling protocol for mites is to pick 4 full-size leaves (not new foliage) from each of 5 intermittently spaced trees. Look at these under magnification, and classify as “mites present” or “no mites present”. If fewer than a third of the leaves have mites on them, sample again in two weeks. If more than a third of the leaves have mites on them, sample another 5 trees. If nearly all of the leaves have mites, it is time to consider a miticide. For a more exact protocol, and to see effective products, go to the Recommends, page 79. If you reach that threshold, check the recommends for a full list of products, or consider one of: Acramite, Agri-Mek, Apollo, Banter, Envidor, Kanemite, Nealta, Nectar, Onager, Portal, Savey, or Zeal.

Woolly apple aphid colonies are showing up in many orchards – usually quite localized but occasionally at high density where present. They usually show up deeper into the canopy, often in the angle of a branch, twig crotches, or pruning cuts. Some products effective on WAA include Assail, Beleaf, Senstar, Sivanto Prime, and Diazinon (if your market allows).

If you do find a WAA colony, please contact me! I would like to collect a sample at your farm to help the Apple Rootstock Breeding Program perform genetic mapping of this pest.

Secondary apple scab season is in full swing now that we finally got a couple decent rainfalls. Foliar symptoms are present in some blocks. In blocks with foliar scab, consider single-site products such as Aprovia, Cevya, Flint, Fontelis, Inspire Super, Luna Tranquility, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Miravis, Rally, Rhyme, etc.

Apple maggot flies are now showing up in low numbers on our baited monitoring traps. A suggested action threshold is when 5 or more adults are caught on a baited red sphere trap per week. If an insecticide is necessary, apple maggot management options include Altacor, Assail, Avant, Exirel, Imidan, Verdepryn and the pyrethroids. Pyrethroids are recommended to use only as a last resort, as they will knock down beneficial predator populations and are likely to lead to secondary outbreaks of other pest concerns, in particular mites! Assail provides additional control of woolly apple aphid colonies, and internal worms.

Brown marmorated stink bug has been trapped at several orchards. Just one bug per trap so far, so we are not yet near to the cumulative 10 adult stink bugs per trap threshold. Brigade 2EC and Brigade WSB are both now registered for use on apples against stink bugs (plus several other insect species) in NY. Keep in mind that you will need to purchase and use only 2022 product that has labeling for use on apples and against stink bug for the use to be legal. You cannot use up your old products when applying for stink bug control. All Section 18s have expired and are no longer valid.

Any questions about pest management, please call or email me: jev67@cornell.edu, 585 797 8368.
Deployment of reflective fabric for Premier ‘Honeycrisp’ and other early cultivars: The deployment of reflective fabrics for Premier ‘Honeycrisp’ should have been conducted last week, this past weekend, or as soon as you have the time and labor this week. If possible, growers should put out their reflective fabrics on virtually all of their Premier ‘Honeycrisp’ and other early/highly profitable cultivars for improved fruit coloring. Growers should deploy their reflective fabrics **10 days to 2 weeks before harvest** on early varieties.

Time to start thinking about leaf tissue analysis: For non-Honeycrisp cultivars, early to mid-August is a good time for taking leaf samples for nutrient analysis. For Honeycrisp leaves (all strains), it is kind of late now. They should have been sampled at the end of June or early July (as recommended in previous Fruit Facts).

What about if you missed the window in late June/early July for sampling ‘Honeycrisp’ leaves?: It should still be ok if you take leaves **without zonal chlorosis** for nutrient analysis at this time of the year. If you decide to sample ‘Honeycrisp’ leaves now along with other apple varieties, you should select the **most recent mature leaves without zonal chlorosis** (see picture at right).

Reasons to continue irrigation practices at your farm or on-farm nursery:
- Water stress at any time of the season reduces fruit growth rate with permanent loss in fruit size, which is difficult to recover later.
- Very dry soil conditions can reduce the availability of nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, calcium, and boron to tree roots.
- Don’t be afraid to turn on the irrigation in young blocks and mature plantings if rainfall doesn’t occur at your site the next few days, or if hot conditions suddenly arrive in WNY.
- Focus irrigation on small fruited varieties like Gala, Empire, Macoun, and continue “babysitting” NY1 with frequent but small amounts of water applied at least 2-3 times per week, providing 2-3 gallons per tree as minimum.
- New Honeycrisp plantings (and those ‘green trees’ orchards) without trickle should be watered with tanks and a hose, 2-3 times per week (same amount of water/tree as previously suggested).
- Please remember that any lack of rainfall coupled with a heat can affect growth of a weak tree and fruit growth rate at this stage.
- **Remember, if irrigation fails, fails nutrition (including the needed soil calcium uptake for Honeycrisp!).**
- Honeycrisp, Gala, and NY-1 fruit producers, especially those located in the west side of Rochester, should not be afraid to turn on trickle irrigation in young blocks and mature plantings with the current low soil moisture conditions in that part of our region.