



“Fruit Facts” – Saturday, August 13 2022

A Very Special Thank You Note to all WNY growers who served as tour hosts, speakers, and to the **NY fruit industry representatives who sponsored** the tour for supporting a great CCE LOF tour this past Tuesday. It was a very memorable tour, with record participation numbers, and filled with so much practical and useful information. Many thanks for making the CCE LOF tour a great success in 2022!

Register Your Hispanic Employees! Less than 2 Weeks for the Coming Hispanic Summer Fruit Tour on Wednesday August 24 (8:30am until 1:30pm): The tour will start at **16603 Skillington Rd, Holley, NY** (hosted by Zingler Farms). Tour participants should arrive not later than 8:15am to start the educational sessions at **8:30am**.

Full Hispanic tour program is attached in both English and Spanish languages.

Registration for the Hispanic tour (including food and beverages to be offered at the end of the tour) is **FREE** thanks to funds and support provided by the Cornell Small Farms Program. For additional questions, contact Mario Miranda Sazo mrm67@cornell.edu, (315) 719-1318 or Mildred Alvarado ma853@cornell.edu (413-406-9760).

IMPORTANT - Registration process for the 2022 Hispanic summer fruit tour:

Pre-registration will be required for attendance of your Hispanic employees for any part of the Hispanic tour this year (the last day for pre-registration will be Monday August 22, 2022 by 5pm). It is especially important for food counts/seating, and handouts. We encourage all growers to register their Hispanic employees by **emailing a list of participants** with first name(s) and second last name(s) plus a phone number from your organization to Mildred Alvarado (ma853@cornell.edu), Nicole Waters (nw42@cornell.edu), or Mario (mrm67@cornell.edu). Please contact Mario if you need more specifics about the tour.

Please be aware that the educational components of the tour will be presented only in the Spanish language. There won't be on-site translation to the English language during this tour.

IPM Notes...Janet van Zoeren

Just a few reminders of what to be on the lookout for:

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](http://newa.cornell.edu) (newa.cornell.edu). Products that are effective for SBFS include Flint, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Pristine, Sovran, and Captan+Topsin.

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, Nexter, 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, Avaunt, Exirel, Imidan, Verdepryn and the pyrethroids.

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.

Horticultural Notes...Mario Miranda Sazo

Time to start budding rootstocks for the on-farm nursery: Collect healthy current season pencil-sized shoots of the variety needed. Remove the smaller caliper wood toward the tip of the shoot and the older, less well formed buds near the base. Cut off all leaf blades leaving a portion of the leaf stem as you collect shoots suitable for budding. This will prevent shoots from rapidly dehydrating and will later give the budder a handle for placing the bud. Put collected wood - wrapped in wet newspaper or burlap - in a cooler to keep cold during the collection phase and transport to the field for budding. Please make sure your budders have enough water for this intense and meticulous type of job during the recent heat and windy weather. Some professional budders are budding until 3,000 or 4,000 trees per day.

Avoid summer pruning on or before days with expected excess heat and sunlight: Please make sure that summer pruning crews don't remove too much new shoots on the trunk. They are critical as replacement branches for limb renewal pruning of tall spindle and vertical axe apple trees. More general summer pruning recommendations are listed below...continue reading for more details!

Mechanical pruning: By now growers should have mechanically pruned all their Premier, colored, and regular strains of 'Honeycrisp' and should be getting ready to mechanically prune the rest of the cultivars. Please wait and hedge the small-fruited cultivars like NY-1 and Gala at the end and just 7-10 days prior to harvest. Don't forget to continue small/frequent irrigation cycles until the day of harvest for these small fruited cultivars.

Deployment of reflective fabric for Premier 'Honeycrisp', Minneiska, and other early cultivars: The deployment of reflective fabrics for Premier 'Honeycrisp' should be done by now. If possible, the deployment of fabrics for Minneiska blocks should start this weekend or early next week. I encourage growers to put out their reflective fabrics on virtually all 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** for best results! Review the pictures of mature leaves with or without zonal chlorosis that we sent last week!

Summer pruning sweet cherries should be done after harvest and during dry periods which allow cuts to dry out or heal before rain. The key to pruning is to leave a **6-12 inches heading stub** (no flush cuts!) to reduce the movement of bacteria into the trunk or main limbs and to leave vegetative buds for regrowth of a new branch.

Summer pruning peaches: To keep shoots growing in the lower portion of the tree they must receive adequate light after harvest. This requires removing upper branches that shade the interior of an open center tree or a V-tree. Prune out most, if not all of the vigorous upright growth in the tree, which shades the lower half of the tree. Prune it all the way to where the branch originates. Keep good light exposure to the bottom of the tree by removing vigorous and upright interior growth. Limit the height of the tree by head tops of scaffold arms maintaining approximately 10-12 feet in height and keeping tops very narrow and approximately in line with the main trunks by removing all large wood in the top facing in the row.

Use moderation if you start summer pruning apple blocks under very hot conditions:

- **Do not summer prune apple trees until they have filled their allotted space.** Pruning immature trees in the summer will help induce enhanced color but will set back tree growth and future yield potential for that block. If your trees appear to need summer pruning before filling the allotted space, then one or more of several mistakes have been made. (1) Trees have been set too far apart and they have reached mature growth habit without filling their space. (2) There has been excessive and improper winter pruning with too many heading back cuts and too few thinning out cuts. (3) Excessive vigor was encouraged by excessive fertilization.
- **Start summer pruning after the terminal bud shoots have stopped growing.** By waiting, you will prevent "witches broom" growth from occurring near the cut and will reduce the risk of winter injury resulting from excessive late shoot growth. Determining actual terminal bud set is difficult. Many times buds appear set then start to grow after a rain. Judge terminal bud set on lateral and terminal shoots, not on upright suckers produced on the top of horizontal scaffolds. August 1st in WNY is a good rule of thumb date but many blocks can be started much earlier. It is best to wait as late as possible before summer pruning. Delayed pruning reduces the potential damage from hail in late summer storms. Fruit exposed by summer pruning is much more susceptible to damage by even light hail. In years with high light, sunburn can be a problem on fruit suddenly exposed by summer pruning.
- **Generally, early maturing varieties should be pruned first.** These normally shut down growth first. Summer pruning will still result in good coloring of Jersey Mac's even with little more than a week before the first pick. Remember, there is always considerable block to block variation. Check each block since differences in weed control, soil type, and fertilizer programs can all influence the time of terminal bud set. Varietal response will also influence your order of pruning. Idareds and Jonagolds can be pruned early and may reduce sunburn. Sunburning on these varieties appears to be worse when tender, more mature apples are suddenly exposed to direct sunlight. Younger apples appear to be more resistant. Therefore, prune this variety relatively early in the schedule. Jonagold appears to fail to properly mature in blocks where heavy summer pruning is performed early so do not overprune.
- **Do as little cutting as possible when summer pruning.** Always keep the objective in mind when pruning. If your objective is to improve light interception and fruit color, limit pruning to the removal of limbs and foliage that prevents light from reaching the fruit. Excess removal of foliage will weaken the tree and may harm the fruit's ability to mature. If your objective is to contain tree size, cut back to weak side limbs or fruiting spurs just as you would in the winter on those same branches. Don't be afraid to remove some apples. Remember that if you are making the proper cut for color there will be better apples underneath.

2022 predicted McIntosh CA cutoff dates, Retain recommendations, and timing for passive evaluations of 'Honeycrisp' for WNY will be sent by Craig and Terence early next week.

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.
- Also, 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.

Prepare for harvest. Now is the time to make a list of everything you will need for harvest and fix or acquire it. Check inventory and condition of ladders, picking buckets, bin tags, staplers, bin trailers, forks, wet weather gear, markers, etc.

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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