



“Fruit Facts” – Tuesday, May 16th, 2023
Mario Miranda Sazo, Janet van Zoeren and Anya Osatuke

CCE LOF In-person 10-12mm thinning meetings will be conducted in both sides of the city next Monday and Tuesday (exact time/farm locations to be announced)

Mark your calendars and stay tuned!

To Do Today

○ **Petal fall thinning for 2023:**

It is still too early to assess fruit set in WNY region

This week temps will be in the **mid-60’s**

The petal fall spray is an essential component of this year thinning program

- A full dose of either NAA+Sevin or NAD+Sevin is needed in blocks with strong set
- Mild thinning is expected from petal sprays this year
- This year with temps in the mid-60’s, Maxcel+Sevin will give mild thinning at petal fall

Wait until fruits are 5-6mm before applying petal fall thinning spray

Phenology	Suggested chemical thinning sprays	
	Honeycrisp	Gala
Bloom	ATS (2.5-3%)	NAA 4oz/100 or Amide Thin 35ppm
Petal fall (fruits at 5-6mm)	NAA 4oz/100 + Sevin (1pt/100)	Maxcel (64oz/100) + Sevin (1pt/100)

Best petal fall sprays timing based on DD is forecasted to be:

Monday May 15 – Friday May 19 for WNY fruit region

Suggestions:

Use full rates

- Maxcel will thin moderate with the **low temperatures forecasted for this week**
- 7.5ppm (3oz) NAA + 1pt/100 of Sevin on Honeycrisp, Gala, and NY-1 (mature trees)
- 7.5ppm (3oz) NAA with no Sevin for Cortland
- 64oz Maxcel/100 + 1pt Sevin/100 for Gala will give moderate thinning at petal fall in 2023 but will improve fruit size

Please remember that Cornell recommendations are dilute TRV rate

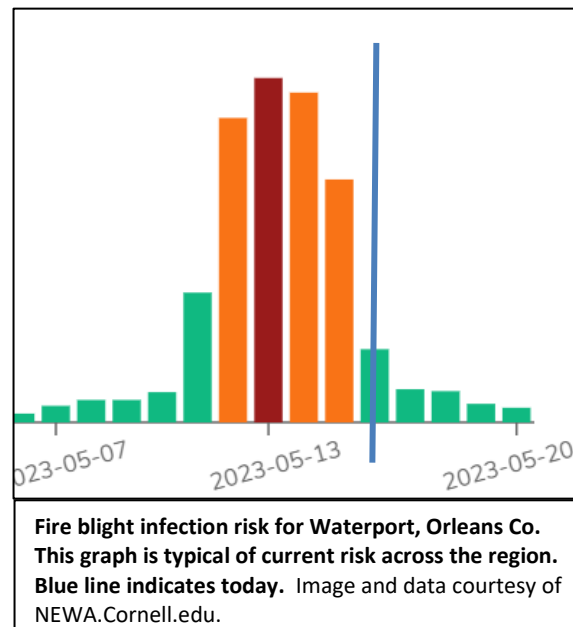
- **Calculate TRV for each orchard and then a concentration factor**
- **Multiply suggested rates by concentration factor to get rate/acre**
- **Do not use concentration factor adjustment for Sevin or surfactants**

To know how good of a thinning job you did with bloom and petal fall sprays this year:

- Measure fruitlets at **50DD** after the petal fall application and **120DD** after the petal fall application and use the Fruit Growth Rate Model (contact Mario or Craig for any doubt if you are interested to learn how to implement it).

Take-home messages:

- For all post-bloom thinning sprays, nozzle the sprayer so that 2/3 of the spray is directed to the top half of the tree
 - Don't use Regulaid if carbohydrate balance is negative
 - If the carbohydrate balance is positive then Regulaid is OK
 - Add oil only to the 18mm spray
-
- There is a risk of **apple scab** infection in some areas tomorrow, if the forecast rains materialize. At the moment, I am mainly concerned about inland sites to the east of Rochester. However, the forecast has been changing by the hour, so do keep an eye on your weather station.
 - No **fire blight infection** events are forecast for the next few days – cool night temperatures reduce the risk of fire blight to near zero.
 - **Watch for powdery mildew**. We have begun seeing mildew symptoms in high inoculum locations. Some options for PM control include Flint extra, Inspire Super, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Miravis, Rally, and others.
 - **Apple petal fall insecticides** will likely go on this week for many orchards. However, **if there are still bees in your blocks, wait to apply insecticides until hives have been removed and wild bees are not foraging on apple blossoms.**
 - **Plum Curculio** management begins as soon as petals are completely off all the trees in the block. Materials effective against PC include: Exirel, Imidan and Verdepryn (also control OFM), Actara (also controls Rosy apple aphid), Assail, and Avaunt.
 - Include Proclaim, Rimon, or Intrepid in the petal fall spray if you have a history of high **Oblique Banded Leafroller** damage.
 - **San Jose Scale** can be controlled by Movento (with a penetrating adjuvant) Sivanto, Esteem or Centaur, generally to be applied around the PF or 1st cover timing.
 - **Wolly apple aphid** can be controlled by Beleaf, Movento, Sefina, Sivanto or Diazinon at this timing.
 - **Mites**. Consider scouting the underside of leaves for European red mite. If you find high populations, highly effective products include 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.



Stone Fruits:

- **Plum curculio** management began at shuck split. For peaches, you can follow the same degree day model used in apples to determine if a follow up cover spray is necessary this year. In cherries, you will need to continue to cover a little longer. In addition, cherry growers will want to focus on Avaunt and neonicotinoids for PC management at this timing, as those do not manage spotted wing drosophila and so do not need to be saved for use later in the season.

Oriental Fruit Moth flight began last week throughout the Lake Ontario region. We will now begin to tally Degree Day accumulation, to time insecticide applications in blocks that reach threshold. For now, we are at ~70-110 degree days across the region (out of 350 to time larvicide application), so no OFM insecticide is recommended for this week. However, **if you have high OFM moth numbers on your farm, you may want to make sure your PC petal fall spray includes a product with efficacy against OFM (i.e. Exirel, Imidan or Verdapryn).**

If using mating disruption for **Dogwood borer or the Peach tree borers**, hang those disruptors soon (or now). Larvae are beginning to pupate, and you will want to hang disruptors before the beginning of the moth flight, or else disruption is a waste of your money.

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 2023. 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.

The Lake Ontario Fruit Program is a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations in Monroe, Niagara, Orleans, Oswego and Wayne counties.