



“Fruit Facts” – Tuesday, June 13th, 2023
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TODAY - Fire Blight Webinar: Fire Blight Pruning and Sanitation

Today June 13 @ 7:00p-8:00p EST; 0.5 NYS DEC Credits available

Please, register at https://events.anr.msu.edu/Fireblight_SCRI_Webinar_Series/.

Fire Blight Pruning & Sanitation

Join Tianna DuPont, Regional Extension Specialist and Associate Professor at Washington State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, to learn about the results of 10 on-farm trials on pruning and sanitation for Fire Blight management.

We conducted ten experiments looking at the success of fire blight removal strategies in WA, OR, PA and NY. Experiments had different scions, rootstocks, vigor and training systems. We compared six therapeutic fire blight removal practices. Learn how these results update our pruning strategy!

To receive credits, you must:

1. Send a photocopy of your applicator ID to Janet at jev67@cornell.edu or 585 797-8368
2. Attend the entire webinar
3. Complete the Qualtrics surveys at the beginning and end of the meeting, including entering your name and DEC ID number exactly as it appears on your license.

Plan to attend the coming 2023 Virtual Orchard Meetup Summer Series titled ‘Managing the Uncontrollable’: Over the past decade growers have been forced to confront wildly vacillating winter temperatures, uneven and often excessively heavy precipitation events, and extreme temperatures coupled with extended droughts.

When: This Thursday June 15 (first meetup will cover **cold stress**; invited specialists and growers will be announced next Tuesday June 6)

Time: 7:00-8:30pm EST

How to attend: Meeting via Zoom, preregistration is not required to attend. Simply go to <https://bit.ly/2023-virtual-meetup> to join a few minutes prior to the start of each meeting.

Next meetups/same 7:00-8:30pm EST: June 29 (water stress) and July 13 (heat stress)

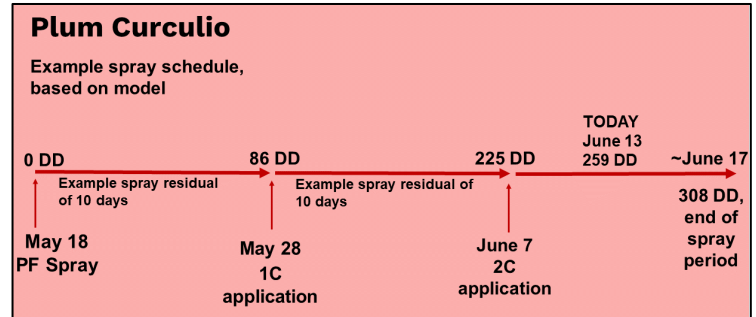
To Do Today

- **And we finally got the needed rains this week. In the meantime:**
 - Continue taking care of new trees and carefully look for fire blight
 - Install/finish trellis, deer fence
 - Start/finish grafting (train leaders/rub suckers from grafting projects you started last year)
 - Check for fire blight and be diligent
 - Start/finish weed sprays and nitrogen applications for on-farm nurseries and commercial blocks
 - Prepare/flush irrigation lines, to mention a few things this am!
- **We will need another good period of warmer weather for Maxcel** to stimulate branching of whips in the orchard (also applicable to trees that were top- or side-worked last year). Please refer to past *Fruit Facts* for additional chemical branching information with the use of PGRs.

- **Calcium (Ca) accumulation occurs during the entire fruit growth period from petal fall to fruit harvest:** In addition to having proper soil pH and maintaining “calm” trees, a foliar Ca spray program is essential for bitterpit susceptible cultivars such as Honeycrisp. We have been recommending 3 to 4 cover sprays of 1 to 2 lbs of calcium chloride (78% CaCl₂) or its equivalent per 100 gallons (dilute basis) at 14-day intervals, beginning 7 to 10 days after petal fall, followed by 2 additional sprays of 3 to 4 lbs of calcium chloride per 100 gallons at four and two weeks prior to harvest. It is important to keep in mind that complete coverage of fruit is essential and more frequent spray is more important than exact timing of spray. Calcium chloride cannot be mixed with oil.
- **Target manual blossom removal and de-fruiting:** You should intensively manage and manually remove terminal flowers. Then you can chemically defruit one-year old trees to achieve sufficient leader growth and canopy development this season. For newly planted trees where you desire to totally eliminate the crop try the thinning rates as suggested by Dr. Robinson in the past.
- **Chemical thinning program for young trees:**
 - **For newly planted trees** where you desire to totally eliminate the crop try a high rate of Maxcel (64 ounces) + Sevin (2pts) + Oil (1pt) /100 gallon TRV dilute when fruit size is 8-10mm. Or , as soon as the bees are out, begin repeated heavy doses of carbaryl (2 pints/100 gallons) tank-mixed with Regulaid (1 pint/100 gallons)
 - **For 2nd year trees** where we want a small crop use only hand thinning and the Cornell young tree thinning guide to adjust crop load
 - **For 3rd year trees** use Sevin alone + follow-up hand-thinning
 - **For 4th year trees** use 1/2 of our suggested full rate of NAA + Sevin or Maxcel + Sevin
 - **For 5th year trees** use 75% of a full rate of NAA + Sevin or Maxcel + Sevin
 - **For 6th year trees** use a full rate of NAA + Sevin or Maxcel + Sevin
- **Don't rub the buds below the main shoot after planting:** We are not recommending this anymore. Wait until the 2-3 shoots (below the selected leader) have 4-6 leaves and clip them to two fingers length. This technique should be conducted before June 15 to minimize competition with the leader. By leaving two-three short stubs below the ring you will have renewal surface the following seasons and blind wood situations will be eliminated. It is imperative that you produce short, planar fruiting units (all along the trunk!) as we plant trees closer and closer in the in-row spacing.
- **Don't forget the “3 Ts” of corrective pruning:** After planting remove anything that is *Too* long, or *Too* thick, or *Too* narrow.
- **Maximize VERTICAL leader growth:** Leader growth is maximized when it is always well supported to the trellis by a rubber band or a wire loop. With young weak trees that have still a crop the unsupported terminal portion of the leader above the last wire should be defruited for maximum shoot growth and good lignification during years 2, 3 and 4.
- **Use your labor and time wisely and multitask effectively:** Cornell research has shown that blossom removal and removal of fruitlets (at 18.9mm fruit diameter) allowed the leader to put on 20% more growth the year of planting. This research found that there is not a difference between blossom removal and small fruit removal suggesting that the window between blossoming and early fruit set is suitable for removing potential fruit that could interfere with tree growth.
- **Woolly apple aphid** aerial colonies have been seen at several farms. Now is the best time to scout your hotspot locations and to get a jump start on management. Scout for colonies in the angle of a branch or twig crotch, or at pruning cuts. **Sefina** is a new product labeled in NYS for “suppression” of WAA. **Assail** (plus Regulaid), **Movento** (plus Regulaid), **Beleaf**, **Sivanto Prime**, **Senstar** (contains Movento), and **Diazinon** (if your market allows) are other recommended products.
- **Apple scab infection yesterday.** Yesterday's rains triggered a scab ascospore release, which would have finished off primary scab period across the region. If we were not covered up prior to yesterday, you may want to put something on when you get a chance to - Inspire Super, Merivon or Luna Sensation will help keep scab infection down and also help with powdery mildew and summer rots.

Apple scab foliar symptoms are present in many orchards, beginning the secondary scab period.

- **Mites are present** in many orchards. Scout the underside of leaves to catch population increases now. 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, Banter, etc.
- **Scout for Fire blight strikes.** If you find any and would like to have them tested for Strep resistance, please contact me. I will gladly collect a sample and get it to the Cox lab.
- **Continue powdery mildew coverage.** Some locations have fairly extensive PM infection already this season. Some options for PM control include Flint extra, Inspire Super, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Miravis, Rally, and others.
- **Plum Curculio oviposition period nearly over.** At inland sites west of Rochester we will reach 308DDs past petal fall and end the PC spray period this week, and at the latest site lakeside east of Rochester will we reach 308DD on Saturday. Most growers likely will not need to put on a third cover spray against PC.
- **Codling moth flight continues, OFM flight tapering off.** A CM spray went on in any blocks with high pressure already, and a follow up second application for first generation CM will go on next week (14 days after first application). We recommend that you use the **same** material for the second application for 1st generation CM, and then rotate to a new product for the 2nd generation!



Pear

- **Pear psylla** has been prevalent this year. 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. If an insecticide is necessary, be sure to rotate products frequently – pear psylla can develop resistance quickly and we need to keep all our options available for as long as possible.
- **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 4th. Options include Topsin M, Ziram, Manzate and Syllit.

Stone Fruit

- **Berming new stone fruit orchards:** Please remember that we recommend that all stone fruit species be planted on 12-18 inch high berms. Stone fruit trees are not very water tolerant and the additional height give more depth to the water table especially perched water tables that occur in the spring and fall. In addition, root growth is thought to be improved by providing additional oxygen provided by berming.
- **Sweet cherry** early varieties are starting to color up. Fruit can be fed on by spotted wing drosophila as soon as it begins to color/soften. However, **we have not yet seen any SWD in any monitoring trap in New York.** SWD trap catch will be reported immediately here as well as on the SWD blog (<https://blogs.cornell.edu/swd1/>). Stay tuned for updates on SWD!
- **Apply a pyrethroid trunk spray to manage peachtree borer and lesser peachtree borer.** PTB and LPTB are managed (in high pressure blocks without mating disruption) using 3 coarse trunk and scaffold limb applications of a pyrethroid – the first goes on in early June, the second in mid July, and the third in early August. Products that are labeled for both these moths include Asana, Mustang Maxx and Warrior II.
- **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.

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.