



**“Fruit Facts” – Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
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**Spotted wing drosophila first trap catch in Orleans and Wayne counties this week**

A single SWD female was trapped in a sweet cherry planting in Orleans county and another in a tart cherry planting in Wayne county this week. Numbers are still very low, but they can increase quickly if not managed. Please keep all ripe or ripening susceptible fruits covered. Management recommendations follow.

**Management recommendations (Copied from <https://fruit.cornell.edu/spottedwing/management/>)**

1. **Excellent sanitation to reduce SWD populations.** Fruit should be harvested frequently and completely to prevent the buildup of ripe and over-ripe fruit. Unmarketable fruit should be removed from the field and either frozen, “baked” in clear plastic bags placed in the sun, or disposed of in bags off-site. This will kill larvae, remove them from your crop, and prevent them from emerging as adults.
2. **Canopy and water management to make the environment less favorable.** Prune to maintain an open canopy, increase sunlight and reduce humidity. This will make plantings less attractive to SWD and will improve spray coverage. Repair leaking drip lines and avoid overhead irrigation when possible. Allow the ground and mulch surface to dry before irrigating. Female flies prefer to lay eggs in shaded locations, away from heat and sunlight.
3. **Exclusion netting to prevent SWD infestation of fruit.** Insect exclusion netting can be installed prior to the arrival of SWD to create a physical barrier between the insects and the fruit. Netting is woven polyethylene yarn, available in different gauges (i.e. hole size). Field trials have demonstrated that 80 gram netting (1.0 x 0.6 mm) is effective for exclusion, but 60 gram netting is not. Netting is 100% effective if effectively managed, meaning netting is installed before SWD arrives, no holes are present, and nets are routinely inspected and maintained throughout the season. Netting also provides protection from other damage, such as birds, high wind, and hail. For more detailed information, see [Thinking exclusion?](#) on the NYSIPM Spotted Wing Drosophila blog.
4. **Insecticide sprays will kill SWD adults and thereby reduce egg laying:** Insecticide treatments should begin when fruit are ripe or ripening and SWD are found in traps. Follow regional monitoring alerts about the first SWD trap catch nearest your farm or consider monitoring SWD traps in your susceptible fruit crops. Keep records of when susceptible fruit crops begin to ripen. Treatments should be applied at least every seven days and repeated in the event of rain. Choose the effective insecticides with pre harvest intervals that work for your picking schedule. Rotate insecticides according to their modes of action. Use the most effective insecticide when you first initiate your spray program — research shows this delays the build up of SWD over time.

**Quick reference guides:**

- o [SWD insecticides for berries](#)
- o [SWD insecticides for stone fruits and grapes](#)
- o [SWD insecticides for treating dropped fruit](#)

Check the [Cornell Guidelines](#) for the latest list of approved pesticides in NYS. Special needs labels and 2(ee) recommendation labels are being sought for NY berries and cherries. Always read and follow the pesticide label instructions and have the special needs or 2(ee) labels with you when applying.

5. **Regular fruit sampling:** At least 100 fruit per block per harvest should be observed for infestation. Talk to your local CCE agent about a monitoring program. Fruit can be inspected for evidence of larval feeding. Small holes in berries where the eggs were laid may leak juice when the berry is gently squeezed; this is especially diagnostic on blueberry. Infested red raspberry fruit may leave a red juice stain on the berry receptacle when the fruit is picked. Fruit with small indents or bruises where the surface appears to have flattened or deflated may be infested — typical of SWD infestation in blueberry, strawberry, and cherry. A salt flotation method,

immersing fruit in a solution of 1 Tbsp. (14.8 cc) table salt per 1 cup (236.6 ml) water, may cause larvae to emerge from fruit and die so they can be easily quantified. At least 100 fruit per block per harvest should be observed for infestation. Suggested methods were adapted for NY growers in [Guidelines for Checking Fruit for SWD Larvae in the Field](#) (pdf).

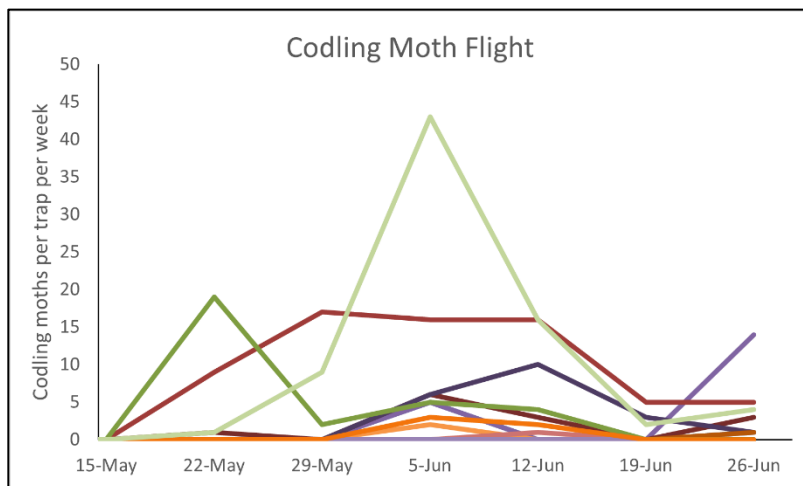
6. **Cool berries immediately:** Chilling berries immediately after harvest to 32° – 33° F will slow or stop the development of larvae and eggs in the fruit. U-Pick customers should be encouraged to follow this strategy to improve fruit quality at home.

## To Do Today

- **Summer diseases** such as **sooty blotch and flyspeck, black rot, white rot and bitter rot** are a main focus as we move into mid-summer.
  - The upcoming rains and humidity will make for ideal infection conditions for sooty blotch and flyspeck. According to the [NEWA model](#) (newa.cornell.edu), we are now in an infection period. **In general, fungicide covers for the rots go on every 14-21 days, or if we receive 2" of rain.** If you input the date of your last fungicide application that was effective against SBFS you can get more targeted timing recommendations for your farm.
  - Products that are effective for SBFS include **Flint Extra, Inspire Super, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Pristine, and Sovran.**
  - These products will also help manage black, white, and bitter rots.

## On The Horizon

**Codling moth second generation flight began this week.** I will be using June 26<sup>th</sup> for the biofix for most of the region. Insecticides will be timed to correspond with either egg laying (**Rimon to be applied ~Friday this week**) or larval hatch (other available products to be applied late next week most likely).



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.

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