



**“Fruit Facts” – Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Mario Miranda Sazo, Janet van Zoeren and Anya Osatuke**

**Plan to attend a special educational event just for Latinas and their families tomorrow Wednesday July 12 in Newark, CCE Wayne County.**

Female participants are welcome to bring their husbands and children! Dinner will be provided!

**When: Tomorrow Wednesday July 12**

**Time:** 6-8pm

**Where:** CCE Wayne County, 1581 Route 88 North, Newark, NY14513

**Brief description of the event:** This event will be for Spanish speakers only. We will be covering **two topics**:

- **Eat Healthy on A Budget** - Learn how to make an affordable recipe with seasonal produce, easy to make at home. While learning about the food groups.
- **Administration of your Finances**- Learn how to make well-informed decisions about your finances, taking into account all your talents and resources.
- **Dinner will be provided**, and enrollment is essential. Please let us know how many are coming from your family. Iluminada Vilca (585) 478-1480 or Tim Shenk (607) 793-4969

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**Plan to attend last virtual orchard meetup about heat stress next Thursday July 13 @7pm EST.**

The virtual meetups are 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: Next week on Thursday July 13**

**Time:** 7:00-8:30pm EST

**Invited speakers:**

- Dr. Lee Kalcsits (Washington State University)

**Invited grower panelists representing different fruit production regions in North America:**

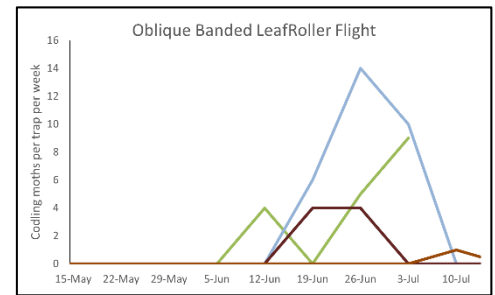
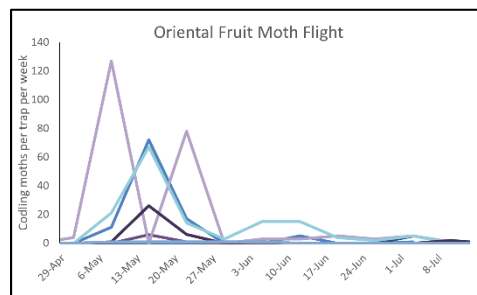
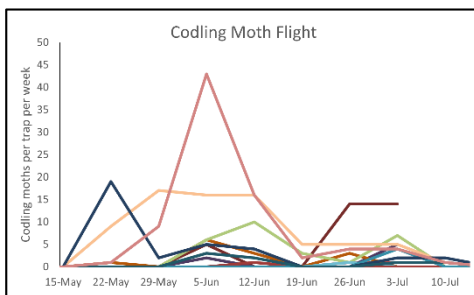
- Steve Brown - Happy Valley Orchards, British Columbia, Canada
- Kyle Rasch - Tom Rasch & Son Orchards, Michigan, USA
- Tom Ferri - T&K Ferri Orchards, Ontario, Canada
- Randy Hart - Hart Apple Farms, New York, USA
- Garret Henry - Douglas Fruit, Washington, USA
- Steve Frecon – Frecon Farms, Pennsylvania, USA

**How to attend:** Last meeting is 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 the last orchard meetup this summer.

## To Do Today

- **Work on the peel sap project for Honeycrisp is in full swing this week:** Please call/email Craig or Mario for pickup of frozen peels by the end of this week. We won't be processing peel samples if received after July 17. Thank you!
- **We recommend that you count total fruit per tree on 5-10 representative trees** in each block and reduce fruit number (via hand thinning, ideally with a platform) to the most profitable crop load (your targeted fruit number per tree). Hand thinning will be necessary in blocks where final fruit set (desired number of fruit/tree at harvest) is still relatively high in the tops of the trees.
  - Early hand thinning will help somewhat to mitigate biennial bearing in Honeycrisp, where floral initiation is earlier than the rest of the cultivars. Please review the recommendations for return bloom sent in previous Fruit Facts
  - Early hand thinning will also improve fruit size in small-fruited varieties like **NY-1 and Gala**.
  - Take advantage of your platforms to get hand thinning done quickly and more efficiently this season.
- **For the sudangrass, or sorghum-sudangrass, seeding recommendations we published in the last issue of the LOF newsletter, we would also like to suggest (as recommended by Dr. Deborah Aller) that there is an opportunity to mix the sorghum sudangrass with cowpea or sunnhemp to get some nitrogen into the soil and maximize the sudangrass biomass this season.**
  - If you have any doubt about this new recommendation and/or how to get the best use of cover crops during pre-site preparations this summer, don't hesitate to contact Dr. Aller to [da352@cornell.edu](mailto:da352@cornell.edu) and/or call 631-902-1582 (cell phone)
- **We are getting to the end of the window for leaf sampling collection for Honeycrisp in WNY (don't collect/submit leaves with severe leaf chlorosis):** In the last three years we have recommended that growers collect Honeycrisp leaf samples for nutrient analysis about one month earlier than traditionally suggested dates for other apple varieties in early to mid-August. This season the optimal timing for leaf sampling collection is **finishing this week** in WNY. There are two reasons for this early leaf sampling:
  - Honeycrisp trees typically stop their shoot growth by the third week in June, earlier than many other apple varieties.
  - Development of zonal leaf chlorosis affects leaf nutrient concentrations, particularly leaf nitrogen status.

- **Codling moth, Oriental fruit moth, and Oblique banded leafroller flights are all tapering off.**



- **Continue to watch for fire blight strikes.** Aside from following a hail event, do *not* use Streptomycin during summer fire blight season. If you do find strikes in your orchard, the best course of action is:
  - **Always cut strikes out.** Recent research conducted by a multi-state team of researchers, including Kerik Cox, has shown pretty conclusively that both tree death and prevalence of fire blight strikes increases if you leave the strikes in the orchard (you can watch a recent webinar hosted by Michigan State University where these findings are discussed at

[https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/June+13%2C+2023A+Fire+Blight+Webinar+Series+/1\\_egiegimw](https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/June+13%2C+2023A+Fire+Blight+Webinar+Series+/1_egiegimw); for example see minute 8).

- **If you find actively oozing shoots**, consider applying a labeled liquid copper (i.e. Previsto, CS 2005, Cueva, Badge SC) product to dry out the ooze. Remember that fixed coppers may cause fruit finish issues, so should be avoided in blocks not destined for processing.
- **In blocks with a high amount of strikes**, you may want to consider applying prohexadione-calcium (i.e. Apogee, Kudos) at the highest rate for the planting (6-12 oz/100 gal, or 3-6 oz/100 gal for young orchards). This will shut down shoot growth, but may save the tree. **Allow 5 days for the product to take effect, then prune out any shoot blight strikes.**
- **You will likely need to make several passes through the orchard looking for strikes.**
- Contact me if you'd like a sample sent in for resistance testing, or if you'd like to discuss fire blight management options for your orchard blocks.
- **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](http://newa.cornell.edu) (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.
- Be aware of **Marssonina leaf blotch**, which causes yellow leaves with small dark irregular blotches, followed by rapid defoliation (see image at right). Marssonina responds to similar conditions and fungicides as does apple scab, but often shows up later in the summer when you may have a gap in your fungicide program, or in varieties that are less prone to scab so may receive a limited spray program. There are no labeled fungicides for Marssonina in New York, but many of the products that you use for scab will also help manage Marssonina (especially effective products include Captan, Mancozeb, Luna Sensation, Luna Tranquility and Merivon). If you see yellowing leaves and defoliation, let me know.
- **Woolly apple aphid** is in full swing. 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. These products will also be effective against **green apple aphids**, which continue to move into many blocks.
- **Apple scab resistance testing is now available through the Cox lab.** If you have any block with scab showing up where you don't expect it to, and have reason to suspect fungicide resistance, give me a call and I will help you collect a sample to bring to Geneva for resistance testing.



## **Stone Fruit**

- **Tart cherries** need to be kept clean of fruit flies, including European Cherry Fruit Fly, as well as spotted wing drosophila. Please remember to check out our SWD/ECFF quick guide to help determine best insecticide choices! [https://rvpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/uploads/doc\\_1140.pdf](https://rvpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/uploads/doc_1140.pdf)

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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