



**“Fruit Facts” – Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**Mario Miranda Sazo, Janet van Zoeren and Anya Osatuke**

**Spotted wing drosophila present in western NY region**

Spotted wing drosophila is still present in low numbers across the region. To date, no more than 2 total SWD have been found in a single planting in WNY, and current heat is expected to delay populations from expanding. SWD prefers temperatures ranging from ~65-75F, with slower population growth when temperatures are lower or higher than this range. Watch temperatures and fruit maturity (and swd traps if you have your own on farm), and be sure to begin regular management as soon as swd are present on the farm and fruit begin to ripen.

- For blueberry plantings, begin sprays as soon as 20% of the green fruit develop a pink blush.
- For raspberries and blackberries, begin sprays as soon as blushed fruit appear in the planting.
- Consider a preventative spray program for late-season strawberries, such as 'AC Valley Sunset' or 'Malwina'.

[Click here for updated spray charts for berry crops](#), or [here for the updated spray chart for cherries](#).

Note that the Weekly Berry Office Hours will begin again next week on **Wednesday, June 26!**

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**Tomorrow is the Third 2024 Virtual Orchard Meetup**  
**Invited Speakers are Drs. Troy Peters (WSU) and Victor Blanco (IRTA, Spain)**  
**‘Water Wisdom: Navigating Tree Fruit Production Through Drought and Deluge’**  
**Last two meetups are tomorrow Thursday June 20 and June 27**  
**7:00 PM (EDT)**

Tomorrow night, Drs. Troy Peters and Victor Blanco will talk about water monitoring and modern practices for irrigation practices in apple orchards. Both speakers will talk for about 20 mins each and will be followed by a live conversation with invited grower panelists (see below for more details).

To join, simply go to [the Meet-Up Zoom Site](#)

<https://treefruit.wsu.edu/event/2023-virtual-orchard-meetup-summer-series-managing-the-uncontrollable/2024-06-06/>. If you can't access, copy and paste the URL in your browser. <https://bit.ly/2024-virtual-meetup>

**Topics**

- [JUNE 20: Smart Watering: Practices for Irrigation Management](#)
- [JUNE 27: Water Wisdom Unplugged: Panelist Q&A](#)

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**2024 Virtual Orchard Scout Training Second Session:**  
**Next week Tuesday June 25 1:30-3pm**

Join us for a second live, virtual training on scouting of major insect pests of apple orchards. Anna Wallis (NYSIPM Program),

Mike Basedow (CCE ENYCHP), and Janet van Zoeren (CCE LOFT), will broadcast from orchards in their region to discuss best practices for monitoring.

1.25 DEC Credits available: If you would like to receive credits, please send a photocopy of your license to Anna at [aew232@cornell.edu](mailto:aew232@cornell.edu). You will also need to attend the entire meeting and complete the pre- and post-survey to confirm your participation.

This is a follow-up to our first training on April 15. You can view the recording of that training on the NYSIPM YouTube website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtyOWCL1Q2A>

No Advance Registration necessary.

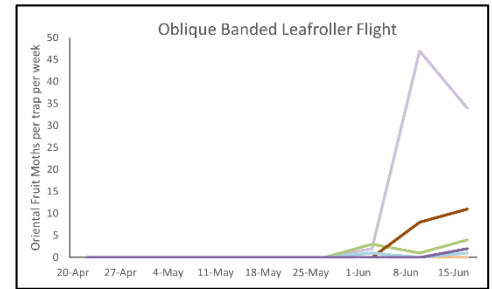
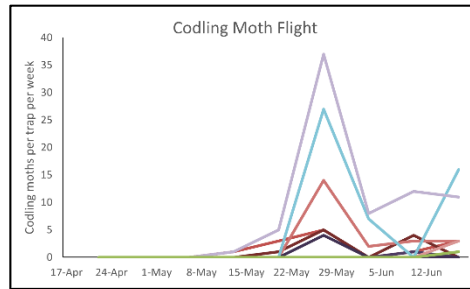
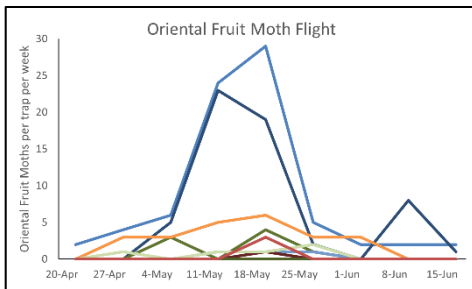
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://bit.ly/2024-orchard-scout-training-2>

## To Do Today

- **Don't forget to mark your calendar and plan to attend the third 2024 virtual orchard meetup tomorrow **Thursday June 20** at 7pm EST.** We have secured the participation of two excellent speakers.
  - **[Dr. Troy Peters](#), Washington State University Professor**  
Troy's research work is in the Land, Air, Water Resources, and Environmental Engineering emphasis area. His primary focus is on agricultural irrigation. This includes deficit irrigation, irrigation water hydraulics, irrigation scheduling and management, irrigation automation, sprinkler irrigation efficiency, low energy precision application (LEPA), low elevation spray application (LESA), and crop water use estimation.
  - **[Dr. Victor Blanco](#), Researcher at IRTA Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology, Spain**  
Victor is an Agricultural Engineering and M.S. in Advanced Techniques for Agricultural Alimentary Research and Development. He obtained his Ph.D. in Agronomy, at the Technical University of Cartagena, Spain and he was a visiting student researcher at the University of Amsterdam and the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile. He then joined Lee Kalcsits' tree fruit physiology lab as a postdoc. He has focused his work on the physiological and agronomical response of fruit trees to water stress and environmental conditions. Victor has researched the use of the microtensiometer to monitor water potential. And now is back in his home country as a researcher for the [Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology](#)
- The two short presentations (20 mins each) will be followed by a **live conversation with invited US and Canadian grower panelists** representing all the main fruit regions of North America. Please plan to attend and join the virtual meetup tomorrow Thursday night, June 20 at 7pm, EST.
- **Please wait until the current heat is over for the return bloom sprays:** With temperatures in the 90's Ethrel can still give some thinning. Please postpone the use of Ethrel for return bloom sprays of 'Honeycrisp' and/or Fuji today.
- **Avoid heat-induced injuries:** I would like to remind you about the dangers of working in hot and humid conditions when working this week. Please be sure your orchard workers are well, well hydrated and can their breaks under the shade during the day.
- **Call for irrigation! Yesterday/today!** We're in the middle of cell division and about to start cell expansion, water shortages at this point can be critic and hard to recover later on the season.
- **With this hot weather watch irrigation needs also for new plantings:** New plantings can stop growth if irrigation is not applied (if available at your farm). Please remember that irrigation is an essential tool for maximum tree growth on new plantings.
- **Frequency of irrigation depends on soil type:** With sandy soils, water should be added either daily or every 2 days. With silt or clay soils, the daily amount of water needed can be added up for several days.
- **Remember, if irrigation fails, fails nutrition.**

- **Continue the intensive tree training at the top of young trees. Maximize vertical shoot growth the rest of June and don't prune/touch/shorten back the mid-, lower branches yet:** WNY growers should focus their time and available labor to select and grow the main leader in young trees (supported with a vertical wire or plastic twine). Please recall that the rest of June is the time to grow the tops and fill the canopy volume as much as possible. Do not prune/touch the lower part of the trees yet (do not divert energy from the upper leader). Timely execution of orchard tasks is very important, and we need to be more patient with the trees sometimes. In the next 5-8 days, we will be discussing the use of targeted short pruning (by leaving longer stubs at the bottom and shorter stubs at the mid- and upper-part of your new plantings).
- **Timely execution of de-shooting and use of PGRs in the on-farm nursery is critical:** By now trees in the on-farm nursery should have a height of approximately 24-26 inches above the ground, de-shooting should be completed until around 24 inches height, and the use of PGRs to induce branching should be considered/started soon. In the next week or so, there will be a nice weather window with warmer temps for the directed sprays of Maxcel to the shoot tips (use a bottle or directed sprays with a boom and only spray approx. 4 mls of formulated product/tip).
- **Timely execution of 'smart' pruning (not the one you are used to practice to improve fruit color later in the season) is even more important to achieve what you want to induce/promote/divert/redirect energy (power!) in a young tree:** The timing for any pruning (simplification or cutting back of one-year old shoots to induce flowering closer to the trunk) should be started in the orchard by the third week of June (close to/after summer solstice) and then very quick for best induction before/close to July 15-20. It is an earlier season this year, and the 'smart' pruning should be targeted first for Premier and then for the regular and colored Honeycrisp strains. Honeycrisp one-year old shoots will start soon shutting down their grow in the third or fourth week of June.
- **Manual versus mechanical pruning?:** For younger trees with a less developed canopy, this type of summer pruning can be done manually with small clippers (inside /outside the canopy ). For more mature canopies, it can be done mechanically in the next days in the summer. Only one-year shoots should be pruned mechanically in the summer. Please recall that in the dormant season you will be able to manipulate the inside of the canopy and shorten back /manage the in-row space for increased light porosity along the mature tree row during the next growing season.
- **Current fruit size and fruit weight ranges for 'Honeycrisp' as we approach the fruit collection period for peel sap:** As in the past, this season we will be targeting the fruit collection period when fruitlets will weight around 55-60grs/fruit. Yesterday I collected Honeycrisp fruitlets at Cornell AgriTech at around 2-2:30pm and they were @ **36-47mm** and fruit weights were **23-48 grs**. Most of the fruits sampled were around **43-45grs/fruit**, indicating that the fruit sampling collection time is approaching very soon with the rains and heat currently experienced in our region.
- **I also evaluated Gala fruitlets at the station yesterday:** Fruit sizes varied from **34.08 to 39.03mm** and fruit weights ranged from **21 to 31grs/fruit**.
- **If you plan to spray glyphosate yet this year, do so now!** Mid to late summer applications of glyphosate may damage the trees, as apples will begin to translocate energy back into their roots sometime following the summer solstice (coming up this Friday!). As a rule of thumb, the final recommended date for glyphosate applications in an orchard is sometime around June 21<sup>st</sup>, or maybe you can get away with as late as July 4<sup>th</sup>.
- **Manage powdery mildew.** Some options for PM control include Flint extra, Inspire Super, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Miravis, Rally, and others.
- **Apple scab** foliar symptoms are now showing up on many farms. **Scout your blocks**, and keep a map of where you see scab symptoms so you know where to focus management efforts throughout the summer. Products that will help control both scab and powdery mildew include Inspire Super, Merivon and Luna Sensation. Captan in the mix will help do double duty on scab.
- **Fire blight** blossom blight and shoot blight symptoms are present in some blocks. Prune strikes out **on a dry day**, and consider Cueva/Double Nickel to prevent further spread. Prohexadione calcium (apogee, kudos) applied **prior** to pruning will help to thicken cell walls, and to mitigate excessive shoot elongation due to summer pruning when removing FB shoots. 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** will become a main focus as we move into mid-summer.
  - Products that are effective for SBFS, and black, white, and bitter rots include **Flint Extra, Inspire Super, Luna Sensation, Merivon, Pristine, and Sovran**.
  - **In general, fungicide covers for the rots go on every 14-21 days.**
- **Wolly apple aphid** can be controlled by Sefina, Sivanto, Venerate or Versys at this timing. Coverage is critical so drive slow and use a high gallons per acre.
- **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.
- **Oblique banded leafroller** flight continues. Consider applying a larvicide in your next spray window (once temps cool off a little). **Codling moth and Oriental fruit moth** first generation flights are finished. No action required at this time.



## Pear

- **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 4<sup>th</sup>. Options include Topsin M, Ziram, Manzate and Syllit.

## Stone Fruit

- Manage for **SWD and other cherry fruit flies** in cherry orchards. View the [quick guide of products used for cherry fruit flies and swd](#) and remember to rotate modes of action!
- **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.
- **Oriental fruit moth** first generation flight is over. No action required at this time.

## **On the Horizon**

**Seeding of sudangrass should be on your radar and close to be completed this weekend:** I am aware some growers already seeded this summer grass more than 10-14 days ago! Well done!

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 2024. 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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