



“Fruit Facts” – Monday, August 12th, 2024
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Hail across WNY on Sunday

Unfortunately, there was a large number of Lake Ontario fruit farms affected by the hailstorms that occurred on **Sunday August 11, 2024**. First hailstorms were reported around 2:15pm in the west side of the city (Orleans) and last storms occurred around 4:45-6:00pm in the east side of the city (Wayne). The path of the hailstorms concentrated along the corridor of 104 route (Ridge Rd) and more farms (too early to tell tonight!) were apparently more affected in the north side (next to the lake) than the south side of 104 (please see below the following pics showing the worst hail damage noticed in the peel of fruits after the rains in Wayne finished this morning). A significant number of processing and fresh blocks were affected by the hailstorms with strong winds that in some areas reached until 35-45 miles/hour. The hailstorms left a significant number of debris, leaves, and broken branches specially around the surroundings of Pultneyville in Wayne County today.



- **Fruit rots and decays** can be triggered by hail. If you believe you still have a market for “ugly” fruit damaged by hail as long as you can protect it from further rot and decay, consider applying:
 - Single site products Inspire Super (14day PHI), Luna Sensation (14day PHI), Merivon (0day PHI), or Pristine (0day PHI).
 - And/or Captan (0day PHI)
- **Fire blight** can also be triggered by hail, because the bacteria can use the openings caused by hail damage to enter into the tree vasculature. Some things to consider when deciding if you should manage for hail blight include:
 - Temperatures are on the low end for fire blight infection, lowering likelihood of infection.
 - I have not seen too many farms with oozy fire blight this summer, which will lower inoculum and therefore also lower likelihood of infection.
 - **Strep** has a 50day PHI meaning any trees you spray this week you will not be able to harvest until early October.
 - If you do have reason to wish to cover your trees to avoid hail blight, consider Cueva AND Double Nickel (4day PHI).

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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