



Fruit FAX

Horticultural and Pest Management Notes,
produced by Lake Ontario Fruit Program, CCE

From FAX: 585-798-5191 D. Breth. April 15, 2013

The southerly breezes will bring warmer temperatures all the way to the lake today and result in marking green tip on McIntosh today across the region. The forecast has showers predicted starting tonight through Saturday. If the rainy periods are in the average of 50 F, we need 11 hours of leaf wetness to result in a scab infection; in the upper 50's, only 7 hours.

Today (this afternoon) and Wednesday will be the best days to spray with copper on fire blighted varieties, or captan plus mancozeb on others before the showers in the forecast result in a scab infection. Start today on early blooming varieties and fresh apple with established fire blight. Wednesday you can follow up to protect the late blooming varieties like Golden, Rome, maybe even Honeycrisp. Processing orchards, they would benefit from a later application of copper as late as half-inch green, so use mancozeb or captan plus mancozeb for the first scab spray.

If we get into a rainy week with few spray windows, remember Captan and/or mancozeb can be applied within 18-24 hours of the start of the rain, and mancozeb can be applied in a drizzle. Add Vanguard or Scala with mancozeb and apply it within 48 hours of the start of the rain that results in a scab infection.

There are no frosts in the forecast for the week. So if you plan to use oil for mites, scale, or pear psylla, look for more calm weather conditions when it is not raining. Do not spray oil where you plan to use captan within 10 days of the oil or sulfur application.

Wait for the next window of dry weather to prune sweet cherries. We used to recommend an application of copper before pruning, and wait until after the 24 hour REI has expired. Juliet Carroll could not document bacterial canker control from copper applications before or after pruning, but she did show the importance of leaving pruning stubs about 6-8 inches long especially if pruning branches on the central leader and larger branches of sweet cherry trees.

New plantings: Those of you who were able to take advantage of tree planting weather in late March and last week, this is a great soil settling rainfall. Put in trellis and finish any other soil disturbance around the trees, then apply pre-emergent herbicide such as Prowl or Surflan. They can be tank mixed with Goal or Goaltender if applied before buds swell, or Chateau (but the label restricts application to trees established 1 year unless a nonporous tree wrap is installed or trunks are painted in newly planted orchards). **The warm weather will certainly get weeds seeds germinating this week.**

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.

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