



Fruit FAX

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

From FAX: 585-798-5191

D. Breth & M. Miranda S. April 19, 2013

The weather forecast is for strong winds to continue today, with showers and thunderstorms later this afternoon. A few snowflakes are possible tomorrow morning. The temperature will drop to around 50 today and will stay in the 40's over the weekend. The low temperature will drop to 28F Saturday night-Sunday morning. The strong winds will continue through Saturday, then lighten up on Sunday. The high temperatures of 60F predicted for Monday and Tuesday, 50's for the rest of the week. The only showers in the forecast are for today through Saturday morning especially in Wayne Co. and east.

Meeting Notice:

***Tuesday April 23, 3-5pm: Precision Nutrient, Weed Management and GPS Planting Meeting
Lamont Fruit Farm, 12703 Stillwater Rd., Waterport, Orleans County, follow the Cornell event signs.***

This is a field meeting with multiple activities with Cornell faculties Terence Robinson and Lailiang Cheng for all WNY fruit growers and consultants. Come to see and learn: (1) how guided soil sampling is conducted in a Super Spindle apple orchard, (2) how the soil data is then used to create a management zone map, and (3) how soil sampling sites can be placed according to soil variability. There will be also a GPS planting unit to understand the pros and cons of more precise planting technologies when establishing a new apple orchard. Debbie Breth will walk you through fall herbicide treatments to observe results, discuss plans for 2013, and do a bit of weed identification.

Pest Management Notes...

Apple scab: Apple buds on McIntosh are growing as we sleep with the very warm temperatures overnight. I am sure that what I saw yesterday afternoon has even more green tissue this morning. Even Romes and Golden's are pushing at least some green tip. The earlier varieties like Idared, Gingergold, SweeTango, will be at ½ inch green. But bud development will slow down after today. Growers who applied copper Monday, should be fine for this shower if it is a scab infection. Many applied fungicide Wednesday, buds are well protected through early next week.

The window of opportunity for copper in fresh fruit is closed – but still an option in processing apples. Your options after copper include mancozeb, captan or combination of captan + mancozeb. But you will still get into some situations when you need to add some alternatives early in the season where you are fighting a lot of overwintering scab such as Syllit at 2 pt/acre (if no resistance detected on your farm) plus mancozeb (3 lb/a) or Captan 80 (2.5 lb/a), that will only reach back 18-24 hours. (Do not mix Syllit with copper or chlorpyrifos insecticides because nozzle clogging may result.) But if intervals get stretched early in the season, Vanguard or Scala with mancozeb and/or captan will reach back about 48 hours (do not stretch it to 72 hours!). As we get a bit more green leaf tissue at half-inch green, your options expand to include the DMI's (Inspire Super, Indar, Rally, etc) or the strobilurines (Flint, Sovran, Cabrio) with a focus on controlling both powdery mildew and scab. Sulfur continues to be effective for control of powdery mildew when started early by tight cluster.

Finish apple pruning, and get the brush chopped right away as you progress so you do not interrupt your fungicide applications. Take special care if fire blight is established in the orchard because the

bacteria is no longer dormant and can spread with pruning cuts. Cut at least 1-2 feet behind visible symptoms of fire blight cankers.

The forecast looks good to start pruning sweet cherries and peaches. Start with cherries but be careful pulling brush out of trees. However, in some varieties that set too much fruit, a bit of bud removal this way might not hurt - but I am not a horticulturist☺ To prevent bacterial canker infections, leave pruning stubs about 6-8 inches long especially if pruning branches on the central leader and larger branches of sweet cherry trees.

Peaches are best pruned closer to pink bud when there are 2 days of nice dry weather after pruning to prevent *Cytospora* canker infection. Pink bud is also when we expect to see the first oriental fruit moth caught in traps. I will be setting out traps next week. In the meantime, those of you who are trapping for internal lep pests, order trap supplies for codling moth as well – be begin trapping for codling moth when apples are at pink bud and expect the first moth during bloom.

In new plantings this year, be sure to apply copper for fire blight by budbreak and again a week later. After settling rainfall last week, you can apply herbicide such as Prowl or Surflan plus paraquat. You can extend the 30 days of weed control with these treatments if you tank mix with Chateau up to pink bud, but you need to protect the trunks of the newly planted orchards. Otherwise in the 2nd leaf, it is a safe application. If you tank mix Prowl or Surflan with GoalTender before budswell, that will give you about 2 months of control. Sinbar at ½ lb/acre is also an option. Any of these treatments can be used in 2nd leaf orchards (too late for Goal), but more options include Matrix, Solicam, Sandea, and low rates of diuron plus simazine. Always include a post emergent herbicide like paraquat or glyphosate in this application but do not try to spray across the rows to cover the whole strip – there is potential for trunk injury on green bark.

It is time to apply lime sulfur for raspberries and blueberries for canker diseases. In blueberries which are at budswell, apply Sulfurix (1-2 gallons/acre) or Miller Lime sulfur (5-6 gallons/acre) as soon as possible. Do not apply sulfur within 14 days of an oil application. On raspberries, apply Millers Lime Sulfur (6-12 gallons/100 gallons of water) or Sulfurix (3 gallons/100 gallons of water) before ½ inch green. Copper is also an option, but I would lean toward lime sulfur for plantings with high canker disease pressure.

Horticulture Notes...

Getting ready to plant? Just a few new orchards have been planted so far. Don't plant if the soil is still too wet in your site. Wait a few more days for better soil moisture conditions. Keep the trees in a cooler, completely dormant while you prepare the field for planting. Do not store them in a cooler that was recently used for apples unless it was carefully aired out. Never allow the roots of the tree to dry out.

Believe me or not! I am still pruning trees today. Please remember that if you did not prune last year, or you have done a bad job the years before and have left too many big branches in Tall Spindle trees, you need to remove 4 (or even 5) branches to enable light to reach the bottom of the tree this week or tomorrow Saturday. Do it now!

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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