



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

From FAX: 585-798-5191 D. Breth May 9, 2013

The weather forecast is high temps in hi-60's. The showers are predicted through Saturday. The frost predicted for Monday and Tuesday mornings has been taken out of the forecast, but forecasts change every 12 hours. Those of you with strawberries in bloom, in inland, low lying areas should be prepared for frost protection early next week.

**Just about everything is in bloom – full bloom and dropping petals in inland sites to first bloom on Romes along the lakeshore.**

**Mark full bloom dates on Macs for your sites and call Craig Kahlke at (585) 735-5448 with the dates to use in predicting harvest models.**

**Fire Blight Alert...** Definitely inland sites had a blossom blight infection with yesterday's showers. Lake sites with active fire blight in orchards should have treated before yesterday's showers. Fire blight cankers have been happily oozing with this warm weather! If no strep applied yesterday, get going before the showers start again. Streptomycin sprays need to dry to be effective. In orchards with established cankers, include streptomycin for all varieties, but in orchards without fire blight established, you can just cover the susceptible varieties that have been blooming since May 5 or before. Good spray coverage is essential for streptomycin to work – it must reach the blossoms to be effective. **So do not try to spray alternate row middles!**

**With a strep application, you removed all the accumulated degree hours, and the forecast does not support any additional risk for a few days even in inland sites.**

**Apple scab:** According to NEWA, no scab infection has occurred yet. ??? But when you look at the hourly data in NEWA and realize when the showers started, and when the curly leaves and flower clusters could have dried off, we have had 9-15 hours of leaf wetness since yesterday afternoon. The additional leaf wetness in the forecast will certainly top it off if you dare to think there was no scab infection yet. I would not take a chance, and hopefully, all apples had sufficient fungicide coverage before the shower. Overwintering mildew infections are easily visible in trees now and they are white with spores.

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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