



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

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## Petal Fall/Thinning Meetings

### Times and Locations:

**May 22, 1:00 PM** - Lynoaken Fruit Farm, 1872 Greenman Road, Lyndonville, NY 14098. 1/4 Mile North of Platten Rd.

**May 23, 1:00 PM** - Ridgeview Farms, 4715 Congdon Road, Williamson, NY 14589 (from Route 104 – turn south onto E. Townline Road, Congdon Rd. is approximately one mile south of Route 104.

### Look for Cornell Fruit Event Signs.

**Cornell faculty and the LOF team members will be present to answer questions. Come to hear updates on insects and diseases, and of course, thinning recommendations by Terence Robinson.**

### *Pest management notes...*

**Fire Blight!** There was a region wide **high to extreme risk of blossom blight** yesterday through Friday with high temperatures in the mid-80s inland and mid-70's along the lakeshore and warmer nighttime temperatures. There was some hail that cut through parts of western Monroe county and southern Wayne county yesterday afternoon. Most of you with fire blight in orchards last season likely sprayed streptomycin Monday or yesterday. If you got hail yesterday, you need to reapply streptomycin to kill the bacteria in the wounds early this morning. The general rule of thumb is within 24 hours after the hail storm, but I emailed George Sundin late yesterday evening and he recommends within 12 hours. This is a new scenario for me in all my years and because strep does not translocate very far (although you treated before the hail) the storm left wounds in the trees that were likely unprotected and need protection now. Where no resistance, streptomycin is the only tool we have for this protection.

Showers and thunderstorms are likely again this morning. If you treated with streptomycin on Monday, it will be **extreme** risk again on Wednesday. We only get about 2 days of protection with the predicted temperatures. The Maryblyt model is approaching 500 degree hours, an EIP of 240 (threshold is 100 EIP) so this really is getting serious over the next 2 days. Evaluate your orchards carefully for lingering bloom especially in inland sites, even on "less susceptible" varieties at this point if they have not been treated with strep this season. I always suggest that you look at the few blossoms left in the trees and imagine them turning brown with fire blight. Then decide if you need to treat with strep... Symptoms of the first infections back on May 8 will show up in a day or 2, and canker blight symptoms will be obvious. Shoots are about 5-6 inches long at this point, but if no Apogee applied in high risk orchards, it would be wise (not on Empire or Stayman) but it will take about 7-10 days to impact the susceptibility of shoot infection.

**Don't forget about your new plantings that are just coming into bloom. They are at extreme risk of blossom blight and an infection in these trees means you remove the tree!**

### Horticultural notes...

**Precision irrigation:** Proper irrigation will be an important tool for maximum tree and fruit growth this year. Now is the time get your trickle irrigation systems up and running. Start by checking the entire distribution systems and emitters this coming week. The proper amount of water to apply to both new and mature orchards can be determined at the NEWA website (<http://newa.cornell.edu>) under the crop management tab using the apple irrigation model. In a windy year like this, the application of water should begin in mid-May (we suggest to start irrigation for new plantings and especially for NY1 next week).