

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

From FAX: 585-798-5191 D. Breth & M. Miranda S. Jul 17, 2013

## Please Pre- register to attend the 2013 Geneva Field Day. Aug 1, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

*This is the year the LOF Summer Tour is run by the Geneva Faculty to show research plots and results.* The field day will be composed of two concurrent day-long tours, one of tree fruit presentations and another tour of grapes, hops and small fruit presentations. During lunch, equipment dealers and representatives from various companies will showcase their latest products and technologies to improve fruit crop production and protection. The event will be held on the Experiment Station's Fruit and Vegetable Research Farm South, 1097 County Road No. 4, one mile west of Pre-emption Road in Geneva, NY. Signs will be posted. Attendees will travel by bus to the research plots to hear presentations by researchers on the work being conducted. Details of the stops were featured in last week's *Fruit Notes.* 

The cost of registration is \$30 per person (\$40 for walk-ins) for all-day attendance. Lunch will be provided. Preregistration is required for the \$30 rate, register on-line at: <u>http://is.gd/ffd2013</u>.

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If you would like to sponsor or exhibit commercial products at the field day during lunch, contact Debbie Breth at <u>dib1@cornell.edu</u>.

## Pest Management Notes ....

**Fire blight** – Do not assume you have streptomycin resistance just because fire blight is running rampant. Of 7 sites that have completed testing so far, 2 have some portion of streptomycin resistant bacteria, but always a mixed population. The weather has been great for fire blight with heat and high humidity and all the rain promoting continued growth of succulent shoots, especially in young trees. Although I do not usually suspect strep resistance in old orchards, it is a higher probability that new infections in new plantings can be resistant to strep. Please call me to collect a sample so we can continue to document the extent of strep resistance which should help our case with EPA to get some type of registration for Kasumin! Maintain low rate labeled copper sprays, <u>not strep</u>, in these new plantings. Cutting out fire blight in this kind of weather is conducive for further infection. In new high density plantings, remove the tree. If you are approaching a reasonable amount of growth where you are fighting fire blight, use Apogee to harden off the shoots. The bacterial growth drops off significantly when temperatures exceed 90F.

Summer disease management: Dave Rosenberger recommends using either Topsin M plus Captan, Flint plus captan, or Inspire Super plus captan. Inspire Super will be as good as or better than Pristine for sooty blotch/flyspeck. Pristine used alone (no captan) was better than Inspire Super for rot control under high pressure. If growers will be tank-mixing fungicides with plant growth regulators, then captan in that mix may lead to some leaf spotting under the hot conditions and/or when applied to lush foliage after a week of rain. An alternative would be to Ziram instead of Captan where there are concerns about phyto potential from Captan in spray mixes. Where Captan or Ziram are used in combinations with Topsin M, Inspire Super, Flint, or Pristine, use Captan-80 at 2 or 3 lb/A whereas Ziram should be applied at 4 to 6 lb/A to get the same levels of rot control. Lower rates of contact fungicide (Captan, Ziram) should suffice where black rot pressure is low to moderate, but higher rates will be needed anytime that bitter rot (not very common in western NY but it has been seen) is a significant threat because Topsin M provides virtually no control of bitter rot, activity of Inspire Super is questionable, and neither Flint nor Pristine are 100% effective against bitter rot when used alone.

**Codling moth** trap counts stayed relatively low with one farm exception that increased numbers for the week. For those orchards where trap counts were high , especially in the 20's, the first week of July, the eggs from that flight

will be hatching this week based on the accumulation of 250 DD 50F from that flight. For those of you with a heavy population of CM, continue to maintain insecticide coverage for the eggs that are hatching. **Oriental fruit moth** counts are increasing in a few sites where OFM have been historically documented in fruit at harvest. Delegate, Altacor, Belt, and Voliam Xpress (12 oz./a) are still the best choices if you have high CM/OFM pressure. **Obliquebanded leafrollers** are still flying and locations with high pressure where first egg hatch sprays were applied will need a second application. Use insecticide or CM and OBLR.

Japanese beetles: Japanese beetles have been emerging in peaches, cherries, raspberries, and other favorite food groups. In peaches, apples (especially Honeycrisp), you can use Assail, or Calypso (apples only), or Imidan, or Sevin. Voliam Xpress for internal leps and leafrollers is also labeled for control of Jap beetles. In raspberries and blueberries being harvested, use Assail (1 day PHI). Other insecticides have a PHI too long for crops being harvested daily- Danitol (3 day PHI), Actara (3 day PHI), Admire Pro (3 days), Triple Crown (3 days), carbaryl (7 day PHI).

**Potato leafhoppers:** These insects can completely shut down growth in new plantings and are suspected of spreading fire blight. Continue to manage these in new apple plantings and in new strawberry plantings using imadocloprid, or other neonicotinoid with potato leafhopper on the label.

**Apple maggots are starting to fly** – Jim Eve caught his first one for the season on Jul 9 and Art Agnello reports his first in Geneva on Monday, Jul 15. So for those of you with apple maggot tunneling in fruit noted last season, you will not have to wait any longer for your apple maggot sprays. Growers on a Delegate or Altacor program for leafrollers/internal leps should get some protection against moderate AM pressure for now. But under higher pressure, for those not using Imidan in their cover sprays, Assail and Calypso will both provide excellent control of apple maggot as well as internal leps.

**Spotted winged drosophila:** Still no live catches of adults in traps so far in the Lake Ontario Fruit Region with the exception of one female caught in Ontario County in woods next to blueberries. No other updates have been sited on the SWD blog. Stay tuned. **Brown marmorated stink bug** trap catches are very low with only 0-1 here and there. Activity in the Hudson Valley is increasing and noting nymphs in traps.

## Horticultural notes... (from Mario)

**Checking the nutritional health of your orchard:** It is time to start thinking about leaf sample collection for foliar nutrition – leaf samples should be collected 60-70 days after petal fall – typically late July and early August, taking the mid-shoot leaf from this year's growth at the height of the majority of the canopy. Pick leaves that are exposed to the sun (not shaded interior leaves). Collect 100 leaves from the same variety in the orchard. Take 1-2 leaves from each of several shoots (not spur leaves) from several trees. We don't know the effects of the wet conditions on leaf analysis, but we think the vigorous shoot growth will have a dilution effect on leaf nutrient levels, similar to the situation of a light crop year where leaf nutrients tend to be lower compared with a normal crop year (K is an exception).

**Irrigation:** With this warm weather watch irrigation needs especially for new plantings. New plantings can stop growth if irrigation is not applied (or if your site doesn't have a significant amount of soil moisture by the end of this week). Please remember that irrigation is an essential tool for maximum tree growth on new plantings.

**Wait for Summer Pruning:** A few growers have been asking if they can start summer pruning of Macs for better light penetration and fruit coloring a bit early this season. Dr. Robinson recommends waiting 7-10 days more as new shoot growth will occur with this wet season. Growers this year also have to be careful when removing too much new shoots on the main trunk which are critical as replacement branches for limb renewal pruning of Tall Spindle and Vertical Axe apple trees. Summer prune very carefully this year.

**Calcium sprays:** Providing enough Ca to fruit is critical for minimizing bitterpit development and other physiological disorders this year, especially for susceptible cultivars such as Honeycrisp, Cortland, Jonagold, Mutsu, and Northern Spy. Keep applying calcium to large-fruited varieties that are prone to bitter pit.

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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