

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

From FAX: 585-798-5191 D. Breth Jul 25, 2013

Please Pre- register to attend the 2013 Geneva Field Day by July 29. 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. Details of the stops were featured in the last *Fruit Notes.* The cost of registration is \$30 per person (\$40 for walk-ins) for all-day attendance. Lunch will be provided. Pre-registration is required for the \$30 rate, register on-line at: <u>http://is.gd/ffd2013</u>.

Pest Management Notes....

Fire blight – I have been recommending complete tree removal when you see fire blight in newly planted trees, but I need to show you that not all wilting branches are fire blight. This week it has come to my attention that **leopard moth**, Zeuzera pyrina, has been actively laying eggs, the eggs hatch and larvae drill into the leaf axils or into the side of the new shoot causing the shoot tip to wilt. The larva is small and yellowish at first with a pair of diagonal spots on each side of the back. The later instar larva is yellow with black spots and will grow to be about 2 inches long. European corn borer is also an option and they will also drill into the leaf axil killing the young shoot but do not have the diagonal spot pattern. Oriental fruit moth will typically attack the the more succulent shoot tip in apples and peaches. Leopard moths are typically related to forest tree species so new plantings next to a woodlot would be great candidates for this pest. Only a few trees are typically lost to this pest most years; the larvae take 2 years to grow in the center of the central leader, resulting in eventual breakage. This is the time of year when we catch the moth, white with black spots, in pheromone traps through August. You can just cut this shoot out of the tree without concern for return of fire blight. Although I do not know of any insecticide specifically labeled for control of this pest, a broad spectrum insecticide directed at other general caterpillar pests will likely prevent any significant damage, but not likely our normal imidacloprid. The critical point, wilting shoots are not all fire blight so whole tree removal is not necessary when you see frass coming out of the stem.

Spotted wing Drosophila first trap catch has been noted in Sodus

close to the lake in day neutral strawberries. For more information go to http://blogs.cornell.edu/swd1/2013/07/24/wayne-county-first-report/.

Japanese beetles are going wild on some of these new plantings and Assail, Calypso, Imidan, or Sevin, Endigo or Voliam Xpress but I would save the Voliam for internal lep sprays.

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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.