Pre-season storage meeting August 26, 2021

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The many incredible cooperators – THANK YOU!



Priority varieties today – in terms of updates/reinforcements

- Gala
- Honeycrisp
- Empire
- NY1
- EverCrisp
- NY2



Quick comments

- Lots of materials
- Will make pdf available
- Any unanswered questions <u>chris.Watkins@cornell.edu</u>; 607 351 0869



2021 growing season weather

- Prolonged blossom period
- Cloudy and cooler July
- Cloudy August
- Ubove average temperatures overall
- Lots of rain



Weather???

Internal browning typically associated with cloudy/cooler August, but that thinking dominated by Empire. 1-MCP changed that equation. Heat – fruit stress, higher respiration rates, higher bitter pit potential. Rain – larger fruit, typically more susceptible to disorders. Variable maturity – greater in fruit from trees without PGRs? [Earlier harvest – bitter pit and superficial scald; later harvest if picking gets behind – skin cracking, soft scald and senescent breakdown.]



Responses

- Spot picking??? Economic barriers. (early ripening fruit)
- Priority on moving fruit to shade at minimum, and preferably to cold storage.
- Applying 1-MCP or DPA as quickly as possible.
- Storage temperatures hesitant to recommend any changes beyond standard recommendations.
- Storage potential maybe difficult year, but of course don't know!

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?





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Factors affecting stem end flesh browning

- Strain
- Maturity
- PGRs Harvista, ReTain
- Oxygen concentration in storage atmosphere
- Carbon dioxide concentration in storage atmosphere
- Storage temperature
- 1-MCP inconsistent sometimes higher but often no effect or decrease
- [Fruit size]



Gala 6 months CA storage + 7 days: SEFB (%) [Fulton]





PGRs

Gala: SEFB (%) Retain and Harvista: 6 months CA storage

Field treatment		
	No 1-MCP	1-MCP
Control	26 a	28 a
ReTain 1/2 rate	6 b	5 b
ReTain 2/3 rate	10 b	7 b
Harvista	12 b	6 b



2020 harvest: Brookfield – CA for 8 months



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2019 harvest: CA (2/1) for 6 months

But one year earlier





Effect of PGRs and low oxygen





Stem end browning (%)







Core browning (%)





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Effect of 1-MCP

	СА				DCA			
Orchard block	5 months		8 months		5 months		8 months	
	No 1-MCP	1-MCP	No 1-MCP	1-MCP	No 1-MCP	1-MCP	No 1-MCP	1-MCP
			Stem end flesh		n browning (%)			
1	67	60	78	76	7	1	49	38
2	20	16	43	32	1	0	40	33
3	0	0	54	46	0	0	29	46
4	19	23	68	76	1	0	51	63



Effects of storage temperature

8 orchard blocks (WNY) 9/16/21)

0.5% O₂ and 1.0 % CO₂

33°F and 38°F

9 months storage



Effect of storage temperature on SEFB

9 months storage in $0.5\% O_2$ and $1\% CO_2$



Gala. Western NY (9/16/2021)

Orchard	Firmness (lb)	IEC	I(AD)	SSC	ТА	SPI	SEFB (%)
1	18.0	0.64	0.62	11.8	0.39	3.1	21
2	19.0	0.52	0.80	10.5	0.48	3.0	5
3	19.1	0.83	0.45	12.5	0.46	4.1	26
4	17.0	0.44	0.57	10.4	0.42	5.0	14
5	18.1	0.36	0.43	10.7	0.48	4.2	18
6	19.7	0.84	0.33	11.6	0.50	3.2	19
7	<mark>18.4</mark>	<mark>1.48</mark>	<mark>0.20</mark>	<mark>11.4</mark>	<mark>0.44</mark>	<mark>6.1</mark>	<mark>56</mark>
8	<mark>17.2</mark>	<mark>0.78</mark>	<mark>0.51</mark>	<mark>10.6</mark>	<mark>0.42</mark>	<mark>5.2</mark>	4



Effect of storage temperature on fruit quality

9 months storage in 0.5% O_2 and 1% CO_2 Average of 8 orchard blocks

Days after storage	Temperature (°F)	Firmness (lb)	Acidity (%)	I _{AD}
1	33	17.2	0.40	0.36
	38	16.7	0.35	0.33
7	33	17.6	0.36	0.37
	38	17.1	0.34	0.34



Gala – SEFB (%) effect of oxygen (6 orchard blocks) ^{10 months}



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Gala: harvest 9/16/20

				150		F:								
Strain	preharvest PGRs	Orchard		(ppm)		(N)		SSC(%)		ТА		SPI		IAD value
Brookfield	1/2 ReTain- 2WBH	01	AB	1.493825	AB	85.1084	В	12.825	AB	0.490504	В	4.3625	с	0.263958
Fulford	1/2 ReTain 11 dBH	02	BC	1.257175	D	71.34078	С	11.375	BC	0.43956	AB	5.2	с	0.250646
Brookfield	1/2 ReTain	03	А	1.903925	С	77.59414	А	13.4	AB	0.487039	А	5.4	с	0.215568
<mark>Brookfield</mark>	No PGRs	<mark>04</mark>	AB	<mark>1.477275</mark>	<mark>BC</mark>	<mark>80.08631</mark>	AB	<mark>13.175</mark>	AB	<mark>0.467651</mark>	AB	<mark>4.975</mark>	В	0.433676
<mark>Brookfield</mark>	2/3 ReTain 2WBH+ full rate at 1WBH	<mark>05</mark>	D	<mark>0.275875</mark>	A	<mark>86.49958</mark>	C	<mark>11.575</mark>	A	<mark>0.504818</mark>	C	<mark>2.975</mark>	A	<mark>0.619248</mark>
<mark>Brookfield</mark>	<mark>2/3 ReTain 3</mark> WBH	<mark>06</mark>	C	<mark>0.92245</mark>	C	<mark>78.36115</mark>	C	<mark>11.85</mark>	C	<mark>0.394515</mark>	AB	<mark>4.475</mark>	В	<mark>0.396551</mark>
		P value		<.0001		<.0001		<.0001		<.0001		<.0001		<.0001

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Effect of carbon dioxide (in 2%

CO ₂ (%)	Flesh firmness (lb)	SEFB (%)
0.5	16.1 a	11.8 b
1	15.9 ab	16.1 ab
2	15.6 b	25.2 a



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Take home messages

- Strain selection early coloring
- PGRs beneficial by delaying development of SEFB
- 0.5% oxygen beneficial by delaying development of SEFB
- 1% carbon dioxide is recommended
- 1-MCP does not have consistent effects in our work
- 38°F reduces incidence compared with 33°F but not a recommendation
- Conditioning can work, but another management step?
- Delayed CA? uncertain, but probably should use 1-MCP if you want to try.

Focus in this year's trials are block performance in relation to minerals

QUESTIONS?



'Honeycrisp'

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Factors to consider

- Storage temperature and conditioning
- Effect of PGRs on disorder incidence and responses to 1-MCP



Storage temperatures and conditioning

Standard recommendation:

Conditioning at 50°F for 7 days, followed by storage at 38°F

control of soft scald and soggy breakdown

downside is that it greatly increases losses due to bitter pit

[Same for CA although delay of a month if DPA is not used is current recommendation.]



Bitter pit is exacerbated by conditioning

- Conditioning exacerbates bitter pit.
- Soft scald/soggy breakdown does not always occur (lowest in HV)
- Often relationship between high bitter pit risk and low soft scald risk
- Can we avoid conditioning by being able to predict bitter risk at harvest?



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Prediction of bitter pit

- Sap analysis of minerals
- Harvest of fruit 3 weeks before commercial harvest and keep fruit at room temperature



Not perfect but may be a method for you to avoid large losses



Recommendations - postharvest

- If the predicted bitter pit risk is greater than 30%, fruit should <u>not</u> be conditioned. Fruit should be cooled rapidly and stored at 38°F. This is especially true if you have used ReTain or Harvista.
- 2. Only fruit with a predicted bitter pit risk of less than 10% should be marketed immediately.



- 3. Do <u>not</u> market fruit with higher than 10% bitter pit risk within the first month as it continues to develop over time, with negative effects in the marketplace (Conditioning immediately after harvest will cause rapid development of bitter pit and therefore is recommended to allow the bitter pit to express before marketing.)
- 4. Consider storing fruit at 33°F without conditioning (if bitter pit risk is high, e.g. > 50%) to further reduce bitter pit development for short term periods (less than a month), but only in fruit from the HV (and PA). Note that while this is a possible approach, careful monitoring of fruit, e.g. eating several fruit from each block for any hint of alcoholic off-flavors, must be carried out at weekly intervals. There is a risk but likely less than with ongoing bitter pit development.



Storage temperatures and conditioning

Some areas have reluctance at running storage room at 38°F because of lack of volume

- Solutions?
 - Conditioning will usually allow safe storage at 33°F in southern regions
 - 33°F is an option but can be risky
 - Share room with compatible 38°F varieties (SD, RF, Evercrisp), or with other varieties that have been treated with 1-MCP.



Effect of PGRs on disorder incidence and responses to 1-MCP





Bitter pit (%)



Control



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Consistent with less mature fruit; 1-MCP often decreases

Leather blotch (%)

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College of Agriculture Known to be exacerbated by 1-MCP; additive effect of Harvista plus 1-MCP
Core browning (%)



Control



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Exacerbated by 1-MCP in Harvista-treated fruit – typically chilling type of disorder



Senescent breakdown (%)

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From another trial focused on CA: Carbon dioxide injury (%)





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Huge issue if we lose DPA although low CO_2 and delayed CA.

Take home messages

- Follow standard postharvest recommendations for conditioning unless following prediction models
- Do not apply PGRs to high bitter pit risk blocks
- 1-MCP use should be carefully considered depending on history (be aware of interactions with preharvest 1-MCP)

QUESTIONS

Your help – please let us know asap if you have a high bitter pit risk block



'Empire'

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CA recommendations

- 2% O2/2% CO₂ still recommended atmospheres (perhaps slightly higher if using manual CA control)
- If using DPA then no concerns about CO₂ injury
- If not using DPA
 - Rigid protocol of as low as possible CO_2 in storage for first 4-6 weeks, but then must bring up to 1-2%.
 - Preferably delay 1-MCP treatment to 7 days.
 - Remember Harvista and ReTain increase risk of injury.

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Flesh browning in relation to harvest date, storage temperature and 1-MCP treatment





CA and DCA – post-storage 1-MCP all treatments at 38°F

T1 Control- 8 months CA

- T2 1-MCP at harvest- 8 months CA
- T3 Control- 8 months CA+ 1 month air
- T4 1-MCP at harvest- 8 months CA+ 1month in air
- T5 Control- 8 months CA+ 1-MCP after CA+ 1 month air
- T6 1-MCP at harvest- 8- CA+1-MCP after CA+ 1month in air

Fruit from 2 orchard blocks



CA	– post-storage 1-MCP	Flesh browning (%)	
all tr	reatments at 38°F	<u>CA</u>	DCA
T1	Control- 8 months CA	0	0
Т2	1-MCP at harvest- 8 months CA	29	2
Т3	Control- 8 months CA+ 1 month air	0	0
Т4	1-MCP at harvest- 8 months CA+ 1month in air	38	17
Т5	Control- 8 months CA+ 1-MCP after CA+ 1 month air	0	0
Т6	1-MCP at harvest- 8- CA+1-MCP after CA+ 1month in air	43	21

Fruit from 2 orchard blocks



Flesh firmness CA 8 months – post-storage 1-MCP^(lb) all treatments at 38°F CA DCA 9.6 12.4 T1 Control-CA 12.7 15.6 T2 1-MCP at harvest- CA 9.3 10.4 **T**3 Control-CA+1 month air 10.0 11.4 T4 1-MCP at harvest- CA+ 1month in air 9.7 13.8 **T**5 Control- CA+ 1-MCP after CA+ 1 month air 11.7 15.0 T6 1-MCP at harvest- CA+1-MCP after CA+ 1month in air

Fruit from 2 orchard blocks



Take home messages

• No changes to recommendations yet, but impact of DCA in combination with 1-MCP may be a break through





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'NY1' SnapDragon

NY1 – air storage

- 38°F
- 1-MCP is not recommended, but with a time caveat (< 2 months?)
 - Why not?
 - Why time limitation?





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Storage length critical HV 2019 air- SEFB (%)

2 months







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WNY 2019 air - SEFB (%)

Orchard 2 highlights that when things are bad, all is bad regardless of 1-MCP



4 months

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2 months

Flesh firmness (lb)

		Hudson Valley		Western NY	
		No 1-MCP	1-MCP	No 1-MCP	1-MCP
2 months	Day 1	15.5	16.0	15.2	16.2
	Day 7	15.2	15.9	14.7	16.3
4 months	Day 1	13.8	14.8	13.1	14.7
	Day 7	13.7	15.0	12.9	14.2

We need to think through strategies, that also involve your history/experience



NY1 – CA storage

- 38°F
- 1-MCP is not recommended without delay
 - may be necessary for delay treatments to maintain firmness and acidity.
- Delay CA storage at least 7 days? (after last fruit in the room)
- DCA has potential to provide 1-MCP-like benefits

As always, not 100% consistent



Flesh browning (%) after 5 months of CA storage (+ 7 d) 2017

Hudson Valley

Western NY



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College of Agriculture ^{IR} and Life Sciences No statistical effect of 1-MCP

Three harvests 9/20, 9/27, and 10/4

SEFB (%) after 6 months CA: effect of harvest date and CO₂ concentration (2018)



HV: Internal CO₂ injury (%) (2019) the side effect of 1-MCP





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Managed by delayed CA storage, or DPA

Latest results – conditioning, CA/DCA, post storage 1-MCP <u>Treatments</u>

CA/DCA storage initiated after 8 days

Conditioning - 50°F for 7 days

1-MCP applied to fruit on day 7 before storage and/or after storage

Fruit stored for 6 months and evaluated after 1 and 7 days at 68°F

- 1. 38°F
- 2. 1-MCP and 38°F
- 3. Conditioning, then 38°F
- 4. Conditioning, 1-MCP then 38°F

Post storage 1-MCP effects are similar to those shown here.



HV: Flesh browning (%) 38°F

- 2. 1-MCP and 38°F
 3. Conditioning, then 38°F
- 4. Conditioning, 1-MCP then 38°F



Treatments

WNY: Flesh browning (%)¹-MCP and 38°F

- 3. ^{*}Conditioning, then 38°F
- 4. Conditioning, 1-MCP then 38°F





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DCA effect on FB less critical than that of 1-MCP





However, longer delay before CA/DCA may be preferred rather than conditioning

- Easier and less management

But a delay without 1-MCP may be problematic.



CA/delayed CA - 6 month storage + 7d



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CA/delayed CA - 6 month storage + 7d



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Q: can we increase delay before CA/DCA and use 1-MCP?

NY1 – CA storage

- 38°F
- 1-MCP is not recommended without delay
 - may be necessary for delay treatments to maintain firmness and acidity.
- Delay CA storage at least 7 days? (after last fruit in the room)
- DCA has potential to provide 1-MCP-like benefits

QUESTIONS?



'Evercrisp'

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Core Browning (%) 33°F



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Core Browning (%) 38°F



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Take home messages (based on limited work)

- Greasiness was delayed at 33°F compared with 38°F and 1-MCP treatment also delayed the greasiness compared with untreated fruit.
- 1-MCP treatment increased CB development at two storage temperatures.
- Current storage recommendation is 38°F without 1-MCP

Firmness/eating quality good, but greasiness?



Interesting 2021 result Fruit from 2 orchard blocks harvested 10/26 and 10/30 (2020) and stored at KM Davies until 2/5/2021

Then stored at Cornell for 5 months at:

- 1. 33°F in air
- 2. 38°F in air
- 3. 38°F in CA





Moved from commercial storage on, and then stored for 5 months: Greasiness (%)



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Moved from commercial storage on, and then stored for 5 months, plus 7 d at 68F

Core browning (%)

Watercore breakdown (%)




Take home

- 38°F is recommended storage temperature
- 1-MCP is not recommended.
- Work to manage CA and effects on greasiness is needed.

QUESTIONS?



'NY2' RubyFrost

Summary

- DPA or 1-MCP needed for control of superficial scald
- 1-MCP effects on disorders not significant
- Conditioning effects on disorders not significant, but softer fruit
- DCA provides control of physiological disorders and sometimes fruit quality, with no negative effects detected.

QUESTIONS?

