



The BLUEBERRY BULLETIN

A Weekly Update to Growers

Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, County Agricultural Agent

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July 20, 2009

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At a glance. Insect and disease problems that should be considered this week.

PEST/DISEASE	WEEK OF JULY 20	WEEK OF JULY 27
Anthracnose Abound, Cabrio, or Captan	Continue anthracnose schedule on susceptible cultivars.	Continue anthracnose schedule on late cultivars.
Blueberry Maggot Only on late varieties See list	Monitor traps 2X/week Treat every 7-10 days if on a calendar schedule. Don't spray if monitoring and nothing is found.	Monitor traps 2X/week. Treat if needed. Should only be concerned with Elliott fields.
Aphids Only on late varieties Imidacloprid (Provado etc.), Assail, Actara, Lannate for suppression of low populations	Monitor and treat if over 10% of terminals infested.	Monitor and treat if needed.
Oriental Beetle Imidacloprid (AdmirePro and generics)	Monitor fields with Japanese beetle can traps baited with OB pheromone. Treat if needed before the end of July if possible.	Continue monitoring, and treat if needed.

Federal Minimum Wage Increase

Beginning on July 24, 2009, the federal minimum wage will be \$7.25 per hour. Every employer of employees subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act's minimum wage provisions must post and keep posted, a notice explaining the Act in a conspicuous place in all of their establishments so as to permit employees to readily read it. The content of the notice is prescribed by the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor. An approved copy of the minimum wage poster is made available for informational purposes or for employers to use as posters. For addition information on Federal Wages call 1-866-487-9243 or visit www.wagehour.dol.gov

Culture

*Dr. Gary C. Pavlis
County Agricultural Agent*

Leaf Tissue Analysis: Readers of this newsletter are aware that fertilizer recommendations for blueberries are based on leaf analysis. We have found that there is no correlation between the soil analysis and the amount of nutrients that actually enter the blueberry plant. Soil analysis is useful to determine pH, and maintain pH in the proper range, 4.5 - 4.8. Thus leaf analysis is critical to maintain the blueberry plant in a healthy, efficient, productive condition. Now is the time to take leaf samples for analysis.

Leaf tissue analysis is a way of determining the actual nutritional status of plants. It is an excellent and inexpensive way of

finding out if your fertilization program is working or if changes need to be made. The analysis provides information on foliar N, P, K, Ca, Mg, Mn, Fe, Cu, B and Zn levels for the leaves sampled, a fact sheet on what the levels should be for these plant nutrients, and recommendations for corrective measures if needed. Leaf tissue analysis can help pinpoint the source of problems and determine what measures may be needed to ensure proper nutrition of the crop. Interpretation of leaf tissue analysis is most accurate when the soil pH is within the proper range for blueberries, 4.5 - 4.8.

When to Sample: Sample healthy leaves during late July or early August.

How to Sample: Collect 30-50 leaves per sample. Leaves should be from the middle shoot, not old ones/not new ones. Sample different varieties separately, if possible. Collect leaves from as many bushes as possible in the sample area. Gently wash the leaves in tap water to rinse off soil or spray residue. Allow the leaves to air dry until they are brittle before placing into a paper bag.

The following laboratories can be considered:

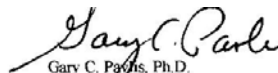
Agricultural Analytical Services Lab
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802
Phone # 814-863-0841 (Cost \$24.00)

Agri-check Inc.
P.O. Box 1350
Umatilla, OR 97882
Call Joe, Lab Manager at 541-922-4894 for
Plant Analysis Fee Schedule

Midwest Laboratories Inc (formerly A&L)
13611 B Street
Omaha, NE 68144
Phone # 402-334-7770 or go on the internet at
www.midwestlabs.com

MDS Harris
621 Rose St
Lincoln, NE 68502
Phone # 402-437-4765

Sincerely,



Gary C. Parks, Ph.D.
Atlantic County Agricultural Agent

Editor – Blueberry Bulletin
GP/sp

INSECTS

*Dr. Cesar Rodriguez-Saona,
Extension Specialist in Blueberry Entomology
Rutgers University
Mr. Dean Polk, IPM Agent – Fruit*

Blueberry Maggot (BBM): Several sites in Hammonton have shown a surge in BBM trap catches. One site that is usually low hit 40 on 1 trap. Populations in Burlington County have also increased. Any grower who has the last pickings of Bluecrop yet to harvest, or Elliott, should be aware of possible maggot infestations. Treatment schedules should be maintained if flies are captured in and around these fields.

Aphids: About 72% of samples are positive for aphid colonies, with 35% over the 10% infestation level. This is a reduction since last week, and is normal for this time of year.

Japanese Beetle: About 7% of samples show low levels of foliar and / or fruit feeding. Most injury has amounted to minimal leaf feeding. This is never a significant pest in NJ, but if beetles are present, growers may still wish to

eliminate them as much as possible in order to help prevent contamination of fresh berries with beetle adults.

Scale: We continue to see fruit infested with Putnam Scale in about 14% of fruit samples. The second generation crawlers will likely start to emerge in a couple of weeks. More information on this pest will be provided later.

Leps. and Leafrollers: Some increased activity has been noted with blueberry leafminer, but populations are still low, and presence has been seen in about 25% of samples taken.

Anthracnose: Field samples for anthracnose have indicated an average of 1-2 infected berries per 1000 fruit in about 20% of samples taken. On average, packed fruit remains of good quality.

INSECT TRAP COUNTS

Blueberry Trap Counts – Atlantic County

Week Ending	CBFW	RBLR	OBLR	SNLH	Or. Beetle	BBM
4/5		19.9				
4/12		55.1				
4/19		72.0				
4/25		69.4				
5/2		71.6				
5/9	.009	43.6				
5/16	0.07	7.9	0.00			
5/23	0.2	1.6	0.02			
5/30	0.1	0.3	9.6			
6/6	0.2	5.8	19.5	0.4		
6/13	0.03	39.4	18.8	0.4		0.00
6/20	0.1	48.2	12.8	0.3	47.0	0.03
6/27	0.5	56.3	6.4	0.3	253.0	0.16
7/4	0.1	46.0	5.3	0.4	565.3	0.42
7/11	0.0	24.5	3.7	0.2	315.4	0.83
7/18	0.0	8.5	1.0	0.1	124.6	2.03

Blueberry Trap Counts – Burlington County

Week Ending	CBFW	RBLR	OBLR	SNLH	Or. Beetle	BBM
4/5		9.3				
4/12		22.6				
4/19		19.2				
4/25		25.1				
5/2		38.0				
5/9	.1	16.2				
5/16	0.1	3.4	0.0			
5/23	0.2	0.4	1.3			
5/30	0.7	0.0	6.5			
6/6	1.9	0.5	20.4	2.7		
6/13	0.3	16.4	20.1	4.5	15.0	0.07
6/20	1.1	33.5	15.2	2.6	42.0	0.41
6/27	1.0	45.5	10.4	2.3	516.9	0.94
7/4	0.1	33.0	8.4	0.9	449.3	1.67
7/11	0.1	26.7	1.2	1.3	130.0	0.59
7/18	0.1	5.8	0.2	0.3	80.1	1.27

Across the region

Farmers

U.S. blueberry purchase to benefit N.J. growers

From Press staff reports

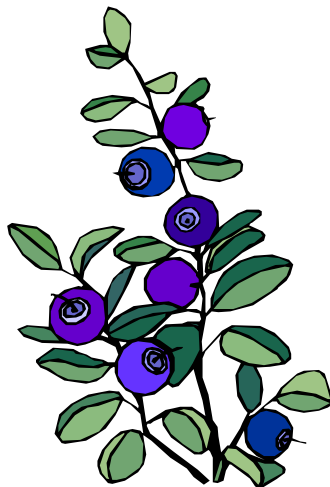
The local blueberry is expected to get a boost from an upcoming \$14.7 million federal purchase of the berries and related products, according to a statement released today by the offices of U.S. Rep. John Adler, D-3rd, and Frank LoBiondo, R-2nd.

The Department of Agriculture will use the berries for federal nutrition assistance programs, such as School Lunch and Emergency Food Assistance. The decision came three months after Adler and LoBiondo wrote Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to ask him to buy surplus blueberries.

The boon to the multimillion-dollar berry business likely will extend to the local economy overall, they said.

New Jersey produces more high-bush blueberries than any other state besides Michigan, according to the statement and a Michigan State University Web site.

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If you have any comments about this newsletter, please make them in the space below and mail to:

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6260 Old Harding Highway, Mays Landing, NJ 08330

I would like to see an article on the following subjects: _____

I would like to comment on the following articles: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Comment: _____

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