



***The BLUEBERRY BULLETIN***

*A Weekly Update to Growers*

*Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, County Agricultural Agent*

*6260 Old Harding Highway, NJ 08330*

*Phone: 609/625-0056 Fax: 609/625-3646 Email: [pavlis@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:pavlis@njaes.rutgers.edu)*

**July 27, 2009**

**Vol. XXV, No. 18**

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

<b>PEST/DISEASE</b>	<b>WEEK OF JULY 27</b>	<b>WEEK OF AUGUST 3</b>
<b>Anthracnose</b> Abound, Cabrio, or Captan	Continue anthracnose schedule on susceptible cultivars.	Continue anthracnose schedule on late cultivars.
<b>Blueberry Maggot</b> Only on late varieties See list from previous newsletter	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.
<b>Oriental Beetle</b> Imidacloprid (AdmirePro and generics) This insect should have already been treated.	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.

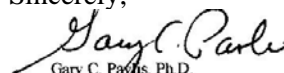
**Culture**

*Dr. Gary C. Pavlis  
County Agricultural Agent*

**Fertility:** Now that 'Bluecrop' harvest is largely wrapped up the timing is about right here in New Jersey to take leaf samples for leaf analysis. Leaves from the middle of the canes are the best to take, not the newest leaves or the oldest. (Addresses for the labs that do the analysis were noted in last weeks newsletter). It is important to understand that fertilizing blueberries based on a soil test is inaccurate and is a waist of money. It is a waist of money because there is very little correlation between soil levels of nutrients and what actually gets into the plant. As a result fertilizing from a soil analysis results in applying nutrients when they are not needed and that costs you money. A blueberry plant that has all nutrients within the

desired optimum range is an efficient plant. As a result the plants growth and fruit production are at an optimum level. Research has resulted in 25% increases in yield and grower communications have shown that yields can actually increase 100%. Thus, a plant that is not within the optimum range for all the required nutrients is costing you money. It shown be further understood that if the pH of the soil is not within the optimum range, the plant will not be able to uptake nutrients efficiently. I believe that best range for blueberries is 4.5 to 4.8. Leaf analysis is an investment blueberry growers should make that will pay them back in a big way.

Sincerely,

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

*Editor – Blueberry Bulletin  
GP/slp*

**INSECTS**

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

**Blueberry Maggot (BBM):** Overall populations have increased again this week in both Atlantic and Burlington Counties. BBM populations normally start to tail off at this time of year, so this is not the way the “normal” population should behave. This increase is likely due in part, to a late diapause strain, which is usually not a concern. However, any grower with ‘Elliott’ plantings or who is still fresh packing ‘Bluecrop’ should maintain an insecticide program in those areas of the farm only.

**Aphids:** Populations have dropped since the previous week. We are seeing about 37% of our samples positive for aphids, with only 13% of samples above the 10% terminals infested level. Most “colonies” are single aphids, with aphid predators commonly found. With these kinds of populations, it is just not worth treating with insecticides. You will likely get more benefit from the predators by letting them feed and reproduce.

**Leps. and Leafrollers:** About 29% of beating tray and shoot samples have been positive for larvae. Most of these are leafminers in the teepee stage, so no treatments are suggested. Very few leafrollers are being seen, although a few redbanded leafroller larvae have been present on the packing line in a few locations.

**Japanese Beetle:** About 10% of samples indicate the presence of beetle adults on fruit or foliage. A small amount of foliar feeding is present.

**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
7/25	0.0	6.1	2.7	0.3	71.0	4.48

## 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
7/25	0.0	2.1	0.8	0.1	37.4	3.08

