Duke harvesting is progressing with most farms wrapping up the first pick and starting the second pick in some areas. Bluecrop is beginning to be picked on some farms. The quality looks excellent and the berry size is very good, no doubt helped by the frequent rains we have experienced in southern Jersey. Some growers have reported berry cracking due to excessive rain however this seems to be a minor problem in most areas. I have seen very little stem blight infected plants thus far yet it is still our recommendation to prune out any infected canes before the disease travels down to the plant crown. Once again it should be mentioned that all Nitrogen applications should be wrapped up this week. Later applications of Nitrogen have been found to decrease winter hardiness.

**INSECTS**

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**Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD):** The first male SWD was captured in a trap in Burlington County on Wednesday June 24th. One male SWD was found in a trap at one site in Burlington County last week and 8 males were found in traps at 5 sites in Atlantic County. Trap monitoring for SWD adult males will continue throughout the remainder of the season. We also started salt testing the berries for presence of larvae. To date no larvae have been found in any of the salt tests in either counties. All growers should continue to follow the 7-day insecticide program for SWD. Insecticides effective against SWD include: Asana, Adjourn, Brigade, Danitol, Exirel, Hero, Imidan, Lannate, Malathion and Delegate. Fruit being exported to Canada SHOULD NOT receive any additional Imidan applications, since the MRL in Canada is less than in the U.S. Instead, plan on Lannate anywhere aphids may still be an issue. Where aphids are not a problem then Danitol would be a good choice. If you are not exporting to Canada, then any pyrethroid will do, and Imidan is fair game. Delegate is a good choice for SWD, and should be in an alternating program during the last 2-3 weeks of the program. It actually has a
higher MRL for Canada than we have in the U.S. It has a 3 day PHI and should be used at a rate of 5-6 oz/A with a maximum use of 19.5 oz/A/season. This means you get 3 applications 6-7 days apart, alternating with another chemistry. Malathion still has a 24C label for the high rate as used last year with a 1-day PHI. This means you can use the Malathion 8F at up to 2.5 pt/A or 2.5 lb ai/A. The high rate is what is needed for good SWD control.

**Blueberry Maggot (BBM):** We continue to find BBM on traps in Atlantic County. Since the first catch on June 15th BBM has been found in traps on 7 farms in Atlantic County out of 33 farms sampled. To date, no BBM have been observed on traps in Burlington County. According to the updated Blueberry Certification Program; “The first insecticide application must be made within five days of blueberry maggot emergence, as determined by the NPPO or its designee. Subsequent sprays must be made at five- to twelve-day intervals, depending on the insecticide, until the end of harvest.” This is a change from previous years, and allows for various insecticide properties, and/or weather conditions. Treatment options effective against BBM and SWD include: Asana, Adjourn, Brigade, Danitol, Exirel, Hero, Imidan, Lannate, Malathion and Delegate.

**Aphids:** Aphid presence was similar to the previous week with 67.5% of the sampled sites having positive shoot samples with an average of 10.6% aphids per 50 shoot sample. There was a decrease in the number of sites with over 10% shoot infestation to 26%.

**Sharp-nosed Leafhopper (SNLH):** Trap counts remained about the same compared to the previous week in both Atlantic and Burlington Counties (see table below). Most aphpicides will also control leafhoppers, as will materials that target SWD.

**Oriental Beetle (OB):** Trap numbers have increased in Atlantic County and remained about the same in Burlington County (see table below) indicating peak emergence is soon. Treatments of Imidacloprid are recommended for OB. This appears to be the peak of OB adult emergence. While there is still time to use AdmirePro or generics, remember that this material is not effective on 3rd instar larvae, and 3rd instar larvae can start to appear in late July.

**Putnam Scale:** The number of sites positive for scale was 26%, which was similar to last week. Out of the 33 sites with scale, 19% of the sites had scale on more than 1% of fruit. Second generation crawlers can be treated at the end of July to the beginning of August. More on this as second generation crawlers emerge.
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BLUEBERRY BULLETIN

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

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