



The BLUEBERRY BULLETIN

A Weekly Update to Growers

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CULTURE

Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, Ph. D.

Atlantic 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

(continued on next page)



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

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

Note: Growers are advised that the IPM Program is now taking leaf samples for nutritional analysis. Any growers wishing to request this service should submit a list of chosen fields to be sampled and can forward to any IPM Personnel.

INSECTS

Dr. Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Extension Specialist in Blueberry Entomology, Rutgers University

Mr. Dean Polk, IPM Agent – Fruit

Ms. Carrie Denson, IPM Program Associate – Fruit

What Is A “Clean-Up Spray?” Every year we hear that term from growers who finish up their Bluecrop, have no later varieties, and put a final insecticide over everything. At this point, **If You Don’t Have Fruit, There Is Nothing To Spray For.** If all fruit has been harvested, there are only 2 insects left – maybe. The first is the Sharpnosed Leafhopper, and it is still way too early to treat for that. The second is Putnam Scale, and only if you had 1st generation crawlers, and it’s also too early for that one.

Sharpnosed Leafhopper (SNLH): We are still between 1st and 2nd generations. It is too early to treat for the second flight.

Putnam Scale: We are between 1st and 2nd generations, and no crawlers are present at this time. On those few farms that have them, we should start to see second generation crawlers during the first part of August.

Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD): Trap captures of adult flies continue to increase. It is STILL important to maintain sprays on the last of the Bluecrop, even if machine picking.

Elliott and other late varieties also still need to be protected.

Blueberry Maggot (BBM): Trap captures are very low, and close to the same levels as seen last week.

Oriental Beetle (OB): The adult flight is nearing the end. While significant numbers of adults continue to be found, treatments are no longer practical.

(See Insect Trap Count on following page)

Blueberry Trap Counts

Atlantic County

Week Ending	Cranberry Fruitworm	Plum Curculio	Oriental Beetle	Spotted Wing Drosophila ♂	SNLH	BBM
5/6						
5/13	0.083					
5/20	0.28	2.4				
5/27	0.56	2.8				
6/3	0.24	0.33		0.74		
6/10	0.33	0	4.9	0.79		
6/17	0.50	0	730	1.65	0	0.1
6/24	0.04	0	2672	1.2	0.29	0.1
7/1	0.04	0	3767	1.84	0.13	0.3
7/8	0.0	0.33	3341	5.02	0.09	0.1
7/15	0.0	0.0	2093	7.35	0.77	0.1

Burlington County

Week Ending	Cranberry Fruitworm	Plum Curculio	Oriental Beetle	Spotted Wing Drosophila ♂	SNLH	BBM
5/6						
5/13	0.33					
5/20	0.14	7				
5/27	0.43	12				
6/3	0.857	2		2.46		
6/10	0.18	0	1.08	1.83		
6/17	0.9	1.0	269	3.08		0
6/24	0.67	-	5460	3.04	1.59	0
7/1	0.36	0	2629	4.64	1.03	0
7/8	0.17	0	4224	5.53	1.07	0.23
7/15	0.0	0.0	3497	7.73	0.19	0.1

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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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