

# RUTGERS

New Jersey Agricultural  
Experiment Station

## *The BLUEBERRY BULLETIN*

*A Weekly Update to Growers*

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

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**May 12, 2014**

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### *AT A GLANCE..*

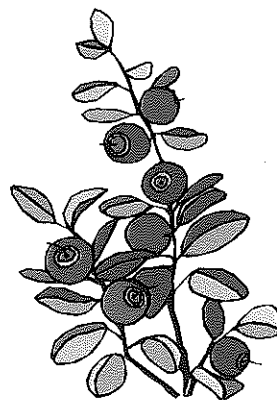
#### **BLUEBERRY GROWER TWILIGHT MEETING**

**THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2014 @ 5:30PM**

**ATLANTIC BLUEBERRY CO**

**7201 WEYMOUTH RD., HAMMONTON, NJ**

**FOR DIRECTIONS, CALL 609-561-8600**



### **Culture**

*Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, Ph.D*

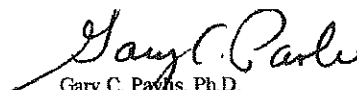
*Atlantic County Agricultural Agent*

No leaves: Growers visits this week have revealed fields with plants that have canes with fruit but no leaves. This is not Scorch. The lack of leaves usually points to a root problem. It could be grubs, it could be root rot. In non-irrigated fields, the lack of leaves is due to root damage due to lack of water during the drought last summer. This fruit probably will not ripen and the plant may not survive. Late summer/fall water applications are critical. In irrigated fields, I have seen

many plants damaged by grubs. Admire is the control of choice in this case. Plants that have been damaged by grubs will pull out of the ground readily.

Lastly, toxic levels of Boron can also result in no leaves. Do not apply Boron unless leaf analysis indicates a deficiency.

Sincerely,

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

**Editor, Blueberry Bulletin**

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**RUTGERS**

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## **Insects**

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

**Mr. Dean Polk, IPM Agent – Fruit**

**Aphids:** No aphids were seen last week in either Atlantic or Burlington Counties.

**Plum Curculio (PC):** PC activity is rare, but up to 3 adults per bush were seen on one Atlantic County farm this past week.

**Leps. and Leafroller Larvae:** There is a considerable amount of “tip damage” that on first glance looks like leafroller or other Lep. activity. These tips look infested but

upon examination no webbing, feeding or larvae were found. Leaves were wrinkled, stuck together, preventing shoot growth. This is probably relate to either cold temperatures during the winter or the cold spring. In a few locations, young leafroller larvae and spanworms were seen in several blocks along wooded edges. Shoot infestation is less than 1% or a maximum of .2 larvae per 100 blossom clusters. One location had 2% of shoots infested.

**Thrips:-**Thrips are not present on most farms, but were found at one location in Atlantic County at very low levels of 2 thrips per 100 blossom clusters.

## **New Jersey Agricultural Mediation Program Handbook**

Susan Payne, State of NJ

The New Jersey Agricultural Mediation Program Handbook developed by the State Agriculture Development Committee is now available.

The handbook explains the basics of how the New Jersey Agricultural Mediation Program works and provides examples of successful mediations. It is intended to help farmers, neighbors and municipalities understand the mediation process and promote the use of mediation in resolving agriculture-related disputes. Whether a dispute involves a USDA program decision, agricultural credit matter or Right to Farm issue, the Agricultural Mediation Program is available to help farmers and others resolve their disputes quickly, amicably and in a cost-effective manner.

The agricultural mediation handbook is available on the SADC's website at [www.nj.gov/agriculture/sade/agmediation/](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/sade/agmediation/) and at your local Extension Center or from David Kimmel, Agricultural Resource Specialist.

If you have any questions please contact David Kimmel, Agricultural Resource Specialist, 609-984-2504.

**Raleigh Regional Office — Raleigh, NC**

April 2014

# New Jersey Crop Insurance Facts

The Risk Management Agency offers a **federally subsidized crop insurance program** through private insurance companies. Crop insurance covers disasters such as drought, hail, frost, hurricanes, excessive moisture, fire, insects, plant disease and wildlife damage.

## Crop Insurance Programs for New Jersey

Each of the crop programs below is found in one or more New Jersey state counties.

<u>Sales Closing Date</u>	<u>Crop</u>	
May 1	Nursery	
July 31	Forage Seeding (Fall)	
September 30	Barley (Fall)	
	Forage Production	
	Wheat (Fall)	
November 20	Apples	
	Blueberries	
	Cranberries	
	Peaches	
	Adjusted Gross Revenue	
January 31	Potatoes	
	Adjusted Gross Revenue-Lite	
March 15	Corn	
	Forage Seeding (Spring)	
	Fresh Market Sweet Corn	
	Grain Sorghum	
	Oats (Spring)	
	Processing Beans	
	Processing Tomatoes	
	Soybeans	
	Continuous	Livestock Gross Margin Dairy
		Livestock Gross Margin Swine

To determine if a specific crop program is available to a particular county, go to: [webapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/actuarialinformationbrowser2014/CropCriteria.aspx](http://webapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/actuarialinformationbrowser2014/CropCriteria.aspx). Signed applications for insurance or requests for written agreements must be submitted to your crop insurance agent by the sales closing date.

## Options When a Crop Program is Unavailable

**Written Agreements** - You may still be eligible to request crop insurance through a *written agreement* with adequate production history. The written agreement is a document designed to provide crop

insurance in counties without an established program for the crop or an organic crop. See your crop insurance agent for documentation requirements. Written Agreements are not issued for pilot crops or catastrophic (CAT) policies.

**Other Insurance Products** - In addition to specific crop programs, there are revenue based and area risk protection programs, outlined elsewhere in this document. If there is no program for your crop a Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) may be available. See your local Farm Service Agency office for more information.

## Costs for Crop Insurance

**Catastrophic Coverage** - The lowest level of crop insurance coverage is CAT insurance. A \$300 administrative fee, per crop per county, will apply for a CAT insurance plan. One hundred percent of the premium for CAT coverage is paid by the Federal government. Catastrophic coverage pays 55 percent of the established price of the commodity on crop losses in excess of 50 percent. Limited resource farmers may have this fee waived. CAT coverage is not available on written agreements. Check with your crop insurance agent to see if you qualify as a limited-resource farmer or for CAT availability.

**Buy-Up Level Coverage** - The cost for buy-up levels of insurance coverage is a \$30 administrative fee, per crop per county, plus the premium. Simply select the amount of your Actual Production History (APH) yield you wish to insure; from 50 to 85 percent (depending on the specific crop program).

*This fact sheet gives only a general overview of the crop insurance program and is not a complete policy. For further information and an evaluation of your risk management needs, contact a crop insurance agent.*

### **Other Insurance Products**

**APH** - This yield protection insurance uses actual production history yield to set the production guarantee when determining the amount of insurance you are purchasing. Proving an APH yield requires records for a minimum of four years and a maximum of ten years for each insurance unit. You will also choose a percent of the RMA published price election (55 to 100 percent) when applying for an APH plan.

**Yield Protection** - These policies are similar to APH policies, except a projected price is used to determine insurance coverage. The projected price is determined according to the Commodity Exchange Price Provisions and daily settlement prices for futures contracts. You select the percent of the projected price (55 to 100 percent) you want to insure. Yield protection is available for barley, corn, cotton, grain sorghum, oats, soybeans, and wheat.

**Revenue Protection** - These policies insure producers against yield loss from most natural causes and revenue loss caused by a change in the harvest price from the projected price. You select the amount of average yield (50 to 85 percent) you wish to insure. The projected and harvest prices are 100 percent of the amounts determined according to the Commodity Exchange Price Provisions and daily settlement prices for futures contracts. The amount of insurance protection is based on the greater of the projected price or the harvest price multiplied times the selected level of yield coverage. If the harvested plus any appraised production multiplied by the harvest price is less than the amount of insurance protection, you are paid an indemnity based on the difference. This plan covers barley, corn, cotton, grain sorghum, oats, soybeans, and wheat.

**Revenue Protection with Harvest Price Exclusion** - These policies are similar to Revenue Protection policies, without an adjustment in insurance coverage if the harvest price is greater than the projected price. If the harvested plus any appraised production multiplied by harvest price is less than the amount of insurance protection, you are paid an indemnity based on the difference. This plan covers crops such as barley, corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, and wheat.

**Apiculture** - This pilot program provides producers the ability to purchase insurance protection for honey bee management for agricultural production purposes. Coverage is based on the Rainfall Index

Plan. The Rainfall Index Plan is based on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) current gridded precipitation data or successor data.

**Pasture, Rangeland, Forage** - The pilot Group Risk Protection Rainfall Index Plan program for pasture, rangeland, and forage. The Rainfall Index Plan was developed to provide livestock producers the ability to purchase insurance protection for losses of forage produced for grazing or harvested for hay. The Rainfall Index is based on the NOAA current gridded precipitation data or successor data.

**Adjusted Gross Revenue** - This is a whole-farm insurance program providing insurance coverage for multiple agricultural commodities under one insurance product using income tax information from your operation. A farm report is required to determine coverage eligibility. Covered farm revenue includes income from most crops and agricultural commodities. A limited amount of income (not to exceed 35 percent) from livestock, animal products, and aquaculture products raised in a controlled environment may be covered. Under this plan, you can also cover revenue generated from commodities that are currently uninsurable (such as certain forage crops, fruit, and vegetable crops).

**Adjusted Gross Revenue-Lite** - This program is a streamlined whole-farm revenue protection package that can be used as stand-alone coverage or in addition to other individual crop insurance policies (except AGR). It allows you to insure a portion of the revenue generated from crops, animals (such as poultry, dairy cows, hogs, and sheep) and animal products (such as eggs, milk, meat, and wool). Under this plan, you can also cover revenue generated from commodities that are currently uninsurable (such as certain forage crops, fruit, and vegetable crops).

**Livestock Gross Margin for Dairy and Swine** - This plan provides protection against unexpected declines in gross margin (market value of milk or swine minus feed costs). It uses adjusted futures prices to determine the expected gross margin and the actual gross margin.

All multi-peril crop insurance, including CAT policies, are available from private insurance agents. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA service centers and on the RMA website at: [www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents/](http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/agents/)

**Contact Us**

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**Where to Buy Crop Insurance**

The following companies have standard reinsurance agreement contracts with the Federal government and are authorized to sell USDA's crop insurance programs. To find an insurance agent in your state contact:

Company	
<p><b>Ace American Insurance Company</b>            (Rain and Hail L.L.C.)            9200 Northpark Drive, Suite 300            Johnston, Iowa 50131-3006            Phone: 515-559-1000            Fax: 515-559-1001  <a href="http://www.rainhail.com">http://www.rainhail.com</a></p>	<p><b>John Deere Insurance Company</b>            (John Deere Risk Protection, Inc.)            6400 NW 86th Street, P.O. Box 6680            Johnston, Iowa 50131-6680            Toll-Free: 1-866-404-9057            Phone: 515-267-4601            Fax: 515-267-4600/866-404-9058  <a href="http://www.johndeereriskprotection.com">http://www.johndeereriskprotection.com</a></p>
<p><b>Agrinational Insurance Company, Inc.</b>            (ADM Crop Risk Services)            P.O. Box 1470            Decatur, Illinois 62526-1470            Phone: 217-451-7828            Fax: 217-451-7829  <a href="http://www.admcrs.com">http://www.admcrs.com</a></p>	<p><b>NAU Country Insurance Company</b>            7333 Sunwood Drive            Ramsey, Minnesota 55303            Phone: 763-427-3770            Fax: 763-427-6473  <a href="http://www.naucountry.com">http://www.naucountry.com</a></p>
<p><b>American Agri-Business Insurance Company</b>            (ARMtech Insurance Services, Inc.)            7101 82<sup>nd</sup> Street            Lubbock, Texas 79424            Phone: 806-473-0333            Fax: 806-473-0334  <a href="http://www.armt.com">http://www.armt.com</a></p>	<p><b>Occidental Fire &amp; Casualty Company of North Carolina</b>            (AgriLogic Insurance Services LLC)            10561 Barkley, Suite 100            Overland Park, Kansas 66212            Phone: 913-648-2554            Fax: 913-648-2207  <a href="http://www.agrilologic.com">http://www.agrilologic.com</a></p>
<p><b>Hudson Insurance Company</b>            7300 W. 110th St., Suite 850            Overland Park, KS 66210            Phone: 913-345-1515            Fax: 913-345-1671  <a href="http://www.hudsoncrop.com">http://www.hudsoncrop.com</a></p>	<p><b>Rural Community Insurance Company</b>            (Rural Community Insurance Services)            3501 Thurston Avenue            Anoka, Minnesota 55303-1060            Toll-Free: 1-800-328-9143            Phone: 763-427-0290            Fax: 763-712-2506  <a href="http://www.rcis.com">http://www.rcis.com</a></p>

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May 12, 2014

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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

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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