

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

CRANBERRY EDITION \$1.50

JUNE 24, 2004



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What's Happening in the Agricultural Community

Raymond J. Samulis, Burlington County Agricultural Agent

Since this is the time of year for most pesticide applications, I want to remind growers of some of the requirements of the Worker Protection Safety Standards (WPSS) that are still in effect.

I feel that the core of these standards is the central posting requirements for farm workers. (These are the same bulletin boards we in extension were offering a few years ago, and currently, the best source of these materials is Gempler's.) First, the board must be in a readily accessible, central location for the workers. The WPSS safety poster, pesticide application records, and emergency medical information must be posted on this board. Another important part of the WPSS requires that all workers on the farm must be trained in pesticide safety. In fact, on a typical WPSS inspection, the workers may be questioned as to whether or not they were trained. Training must be in their native language. Additionally, the regulations require that workers have access to water, soap, towels, and single use cups. Some growers have situated these items on a convenient transportable wagon, so that these supplies can be moved from field to field as the need arises. Some types of farms, particularly nurseries and greenhouses, have other restrictions that apply.

An effective method for preparing for an unannounced WPSS inspection, is to obtain a copy of the actual check list used by the DEP by downloading it from their website at <http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/pcp/>.

Remember that there are other requirements for people who actually do the spraying (pesticide handlers) as well as for commercial handlers.

At a recent meeting, it was brought to my attention that farmers in the northern part of our state have had surprise inspections for their agricultural water use certifications. One of the required compliance items is that growers must show their water usage records. Another newer requirement is that water users are now required to mark their wells with their permit numbers (painted or embossed on top) so that they are readily identifiable.

There has been a flush of recent activity in expediting the processing of water use certifications and registrations. In recent years, major backlogs in requests for certifications have prompted concerns from the agricultural agents as well as from the grower community. DEP's response to our concerns has resulted in additional staff hired to handle the backlog for irrigation permits. Expect to see unusual activity and scrutiny of many areas dealing with water use permits. □

Insect Update

James D. Barry, Ph.D., Post-Doctoral Research Associate

✓ **Sparaganothis Fruitworm** – High numbers of moths are still being captured in pheromone traps. We expect trap catches to go down in the next week. This insect may be the most important post-pollination pest to manage. In the past, insecticides have been applied two weeks after the peak moth flight. The anticipated spray to control young caterpillars is right after the July 4th week-end.

✓ **Spotted Fireworm** – Pheromone trap catches have gone down significantly indicating that the peak flight has passed. Eggs have already hatched, but very few egg

masses have been found in bogs that we sampled. Therefore, we expect larval numbers to be lower than usual this year and a spray specifically for this pest may not be necessary. As such, the timing for the next insecticide application may depend more on numbers of *Sparaganothis* fruitworm.

✓ **Cranberry Blossomworm** – At this time most caterpillars are now in the pre-pupal stage and are dormant, although several may still be in the last instar. This means that the caterpillars will no longer cause damage. The adult flight is expected to start in the last week of August.

✓ **Insecticide Sprays** – When bees are present your best choices of insecticides are: Confirm 2F, Intrepid 2F, or DiPel. □

Weekly Weather Summary

Keith Arnesen, Ph.D., Agricultural Meteorologist

Temperatures averaged much above normal, averaging 72 degrees north, 75 degrees central and 76 degrees south. Extremes were 91 degrees at several locations on the 19th, and 45 degrees at Charlotteburg on the 21st. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.28 inches north, 0.22 inches central, and 1.09 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 2.62 inches at Glassboro on the 16th to 17th. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 66 percent north, 55 percent central and 63 percent south. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 70 degrees north, 72 degrees central and 73 degrees south.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday 6/21/04

WEATHER STATIONS	RAINFALL			TEMPERATURE				GDD BASE50		MON %FC
	WEEK	TOTAL	DEP	MX	MN	AVG	DEP	TOT	DEP	
BELVIDERE BRIDGE	.17	13.03	-1.06	88	45	70.	1	965	271	65
CANOE BROOK	.25	15.24	.01	91	53	75.	6	1039	379	60
CHARLOTTEBURG	.60	15.04	-.28	87	45	71.	5	889	384	63
FLEMINGTON	.16	15.49	.97	88	47	73.	3	988	302	65
LONG VALLEY	.28	12.82	-2.75	84	47	71.	4	855	295	60
NEWTON	.21	13.66	-.11	86	47	71.	4	880	307	56
FREEHOLD	.11	15.58	1.27	90	49	74.	4	1075	304	61
LONG BRANCH	.12	13.48	-.96	90	51	75.	5	903	196	32
NEW BRUNSWICK	.10	14.12	.13	89	49	74.	3	1027	210	67
TOMS RIVER	.36	15.46	1.23	91	54	76.	7	1104	403	37
TRENTON	.42	12.61	-.38	89	50	74.	2	1071	204	47
CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE	.17	13.15	.54	88	54	74.	4	1016	239	26
DOWNTOWN	.61	14.14	1.27	88	55	75.	3	1174	286	60
GLASSBORO	3.49	19.84	5.95	89	56	76.	4	1237	370	75
HAMMONTON	1.12	14.78	1.26	91	54	76.	4	1211	352	49
POMONA	.12	12.63	.29	89	53	75.	5	1118	335	44
SEABROOK	1.06	16.39	4.14	89	56	77.	5	1313	419	64
SOUTH HARRISON	1.93	18.66	4.83	89	57	76.	NA	1243	NA	NA
WES KLINE — GDD BASE 40 PINEY HOLLOW										
Last Week 197 (Ending 6/14/04) This Week 267 (Ending 6/21/04)										

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