

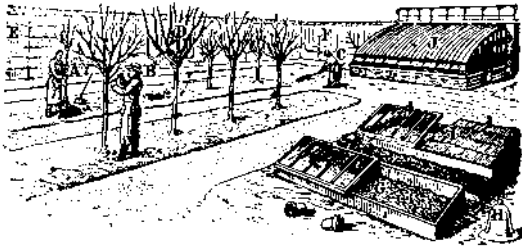
PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

FRUIT EDITION \$1.50

JUNE 29, 2004

Want to Know More About Growing Peaches?

Dr. Bill Nicholson, Director, Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center



If so, then attend the Fruit Research Meeting this Wednesday evening (June 30) at 5 pm at the Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center (RAREC) located in Upper Deerfield Township, NJ. See and hear about new production information and Worker Protection updates, view promising new varieties, rootstocks and pest displays, get pest management recommendations, and more. This meeting also is a good time to interact with the various Extension and research faculty and staff to get some one-on-one advice for those issues that confront your orchard operation.

Several highlights of the tour include Dr. Brad Majek's work on cost effective weed control and current research on orchard weed management. Dr. Norm Lalancette will discuss current research on techniques and materials for **brown rot** control, new management strategies for **peach scab**, integrated control of **rusty spot** using biorational fungicides, and experimental compounds being tested for **bacterial spot** control. Gail Lokaj will present an update on the ongoing North American NC-140 peach rootstock study. Larry Rossell and Erin Hitchner of the IR-4 Program will provide an overview of the program that helps set tolerances for new pesticides for use on minor crops. Additionally, Dr. George Hamilton will present an update on Worker Protection and other pesticide issues. Tree Fruit Entomology will have a several presentations. Dr. Peter Shearer will provide an overview of his program that integrates applied research with practical insect management solutions. For those growing apples, Dr. Greg Krawczyk, Extension Tree Fruit Entomologist from Penn State, has been invited to give a presentation on the emerging insecticide resistance problem in **codling moth** in apples and he will provide some solutions for this problem that is affecting apple production around the world. Following the tour, Dr. Atanas Atanassov, a Research Associate working with Dr. Shearer, will oversee a hands-on-display of various insect pests and their damage that will be set up in the Post-Harvest Building. Dr. Joe Goffreda and Jerry Frecon will display peach and apricot varieties and provide information on the NJAES Breeding Program. There will be a nice picnic dinner following the tour.

NJ Pesticide Units will be awarded to those who attend and have valid applicator licenses. This program will go on RAIN or SHINE.

SEE FRUIT RESEARCH MEETING ON PAGE 2

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Peach Variety Harvest in Southern New Jersey

Jerome L. Frecon, Agricultural Agent

Peach harvest is underway with the first Sentry harvested on June 27, 2004. Some fruit on commercial varieties like Harbinger, Flamin Fury PF#1 and Springcrest were harvested in the past ten days. Flamin Fury PF#1 is being packed by some packing houses.

We have peach varieties with better fruit characteristics in our variety test blocks and many are named and commercially introduced while others are listed by test number.

There seems to be interest in planting earlier peaches to not only spread out the season at local farm markets but because in recent years large and high quality early varieties have brought some of the better prices.

Flavor has been very good based on the recent dry weather and sunny days with cool nights. Fruit color and size have also been excellent. South Jersey growers thinned hard and early particularly on early maturing varieties knowing the wholesale markets make more demands for large fruit.

Our fruit harvest date seems to be about one week earlier than normal but not quite as early as the year 2002. Movement from the southeastern U.S is light with FOB prices below the cost of production except for the very largest fruit above 2¾ inches. Movement is about 250 10,000 pound units behind movement as of June 21, and the same date last year. California peach movement is light to steady but about 1900 10,000 pound units above 2003. Prices seem to be low except for large peaches. Either California has more peaches than originally estimated or movement is better than expected as of June 21, 2004. The National Peach Council is asking growers to contact the AMS of USDA and ask them to buy 40,000,000 million pounds of frozen peaches of fresh market varieties from California to lighten the market pressure on other fresh peaches, particularly from Eastern U.S. Shippers. The following are brief descriptions of some of the earliest varieties again:

Raycrest is a very early yellow-fleshed variety with better color and size equal to FF PF 1. The variety ripens earlier about June 20 this season. I think this variety is more attractive than FF PH#1 (the strain I am familiar with) and definitely firmer. Raycrest averaged about 10% sugar (SSC).

Queencrest is a very early yellow-fleshed variety ripening just after Raycrest. I believe the size is better and the shape and ripening more uniform than Raycrest. Flavor is also slightly better. SSC was similar to Raycrest 9.8%.

Sunbrite is a yellow-fleshed variety ripening about June 26 this year. It is larger, brighter, more attractive, and more flavorful and uniform than Queencrest, FF PF#1,



Left to Right - Spring Snow, Sunbrite, Crimson Lady, and Empress - four promising very early peach varieties

FF-PF 5B, and Raycrest. A high percentage of the fruit is 2½ inches or larger. Firmness is variable. SSC averaged 10.6%

Crimson Lady is a very early yellow-fleshed variety ripening on June 28 this year. The fruit is very attractive, bright with light pubescence. The flesh is very firm and flavorful. Fruit size is large with a high percentage above 2¾ inches. Unfortunately, it is uneven in fruit shape with a significant percentage of mummies this year. SSC averaged 10.1%

Empress is a very early yellow-fleshed variety ripening on June 28 this year. Fruit size is not as large as Crimson Lady but comparable to Sunbrite. Firmness is better than Sunbrite but darker in color. Sunbrite is more attractive. Empress averaged 10.6%SSC.

Spring Snow is a low acid white-fleshed peach ripening about June 28. Fruit size is averaging above 2½ inches with a few splits. Flavor is outstanding in this season averaging 11.1% SSC. We must be cautious about picking this variety too early because it is a deep dark red.

Of course all of the above varieties are clingstone in New Jersey. We have also harvested NJ C-126 and NJ 268 booth of which have color and flavor averaging 11% SSC. Unfortunately, these two NJ selections lack size. All of the above varieties were developed in California or Georgia so I have been cautious about suggesting planting and have recommend FF PF#5B which is just ripening now. I think most of the above varieties average better size, but are not as productive as FF PF#5B.

We will begin to harvest Sentry in volume in the next week to 10 days. □

FRUIT RESEARCH MEETING FROM PAGE 1

PLEASE REGISTER for the meeting with Jerry Frecon at (856) 307-6450 so we can better estimate the number of people that will join us for dinner.

This meeting is not totally accessible to the physically impaired. Please contact Jerry Frecon at (856) 307-6450 prior to the meeting to make arrangements. □

Review of Peach Rusty Spot Development in 2004

Norman Lalancette, Ph.D., Specialist in Tree Fruit Pathology

The **rusty spot** epidemic ended about two weeks ago. Thus, if you haven't already done so, it's time to put away the Nova for next season. This fungicide is not recommended for **brown rot** or any other summer disease on peach or nectarine. Full attention should now be on **peach scab** (we're still observing some sporulation by twig lesions) and possibly **anthracnose**. This is a good time to review this year's rusty spot development.

The rusty spot epidemic started about the 13th of May and continued for approximately one month until mid June. At this point in time, about when pit hardening was initiated, the fruit became resistant to further infection. Maximum disease levels this season [on non-sprayed trees] were 30% fruit infection on highly susceptible Autumn glo and 20% fruit infection on moderately susceptible Jersey glo. Most of this disease increase occurred in May, although another slight increase in disease incidence was observed in early June on the Autumn glo.

Although May was plenty warm enough for disease development, this year's epidemic was [surprisingly] only slightly more severe than last year. In 2003, the cold and wet season caused a considerable delay in fruit development with a concomitant delay in the epidemic. Consequently, fruit infection last year reached only 15 to 17% on both the Autumn glo and Jersey glo. In contrast, conditions in 2002 were highly favorable for disease development; fruit disease incidence reached 90% and 40% on Autumn glo and Jersey glo, respectively.

Our research here in New Jersey has shown that about a third of the rusty spot lesions that form are no longer visible by the time of harvest. We suspect that these lesions are those that form late in the epidemic, perhaps not fully developing as the fruit become more resistant with time. We believe fruit expansion during final swell and the formation of red coloration make these less developed lesions difficult to identify. Nevertheless, regardless of the cause, this phenomenon is a "good thing" since it helps reduce the impact of rusty spot on fruit quality.

Had severe infection occurred in May, significant russetting and sometimes fruit cracking (e.g., on Jersey queen) would have contributed to loss of fruit quality. However, given the relatively low rusty spot incidence, plus the expected disappearance of some lesions, rusty spot should not be a factor this season in reducing fruit quality at harvest. Most fungicide programs should have easily provided the necessary disease control. Here at the research center, our standard fungicide program (Nova) applied from petal fall through second cover resulted in near perfect control. □

Sooty Blotch and Flyspeck

Bill Turechek and Dave Rosenberger, Ph.D.'s, Plant Pathology, NYAES, Geneva and Highland, NY

Reprinted from *SCAFFOLDS Fruit Journal*, Geneva, NY. Volume 13, No. 15, Cornell University

Sooty blotch and **flyspeck** (SBFS) are two of the most important summer diseases of apple in New York. The diseases do not result in direct losses in yield, but rather they cause a reduction in fruit quality which can lead to economic loss due to downgrading in fresh market fruit. Losses can exceed 25%, especially in warm humid climates such as those experienced in southeastern NY, southern New England, and the mid-Atlantic and southern states. Until recently, sooty blotch was thought to be caused by the fungus *Gloeodes pomigena*. However, recent studies have shown that sooty blotch is a disease complex caused by at least 3 different fungi: *Peltaster fruticola*, *Leptodontium elatius*, and *Geastrum polystigmatidis*. All three fungi are not necessarily present in all sooty blotch lesions. Flyspeck is caused by the fungus *Schizothyrium pomi* (= *Zygothia jamaicensis*).

Symptoms

Sooty blotch appears as various shades of olive-green on the surface of the fruit. Colonies range in shape from nearly circular with distinct margins to rather large, amorphous blotches with diffuse margins. The variation in shapes and color can be attributed to the differences among the three fungi causing the disease and environmental conditions, specifically temperature and relative humidity. Fruit infection typically occurs in June and the first symptoms are generally apparent 20 to 25 days after infection, but can be visible as soon as 8 to 12 days after infection if conditions are warm and wet.

Flyspeck appears as distinct groupings of shiny, black fungal bodies (called thyriothecia) on the surface of the fruit. The number of thyriothecia associated with a single infection ranges from a few to over fifty. Although flyspeck thyriothecia appear to exist individually, close examination reveals mycelium connecting the individual structures. The primary spores are discharged starting around 2 weeks after petal fall and symptoms may be visible 10-12 days after infection under optimal conditions, but may not be visible for 1 month under less than ideal conditions. These primary infections will give rise to conidia, which initiate secondary cycles of infection throughout the remainder of the season. Numerous observations in the field have shown that warm and wet or humid conditions are needed for the development of disease. For both flyspeck and sooty blotch, the causal fungi grow only within the wax cuticle of the fruit and are quite superficial. Rubbing the fruit with a cloth will often be enough to "clean-up" an apple that is only lightly affected.

SEE SBFS ON PAGE 4

Disease Management

Proper pruning and fruit thinning can have a huge impact on the effectiveness of fungicides used to control SBFS. In a 2-year study conducted in Massachusetts, Cooley et al. (1997) showed that summer pruning could reduce the incidence of flyspeck by nearly 50% in an unsprayed orchard. In the same study, they showed that the number of fruit downgraded from USDA Extra Fancy was reduced when summer pruning was done in commercial orchards. They concluded that summer pruning helped to decrease the incidence of flyspeck by reducing the number of hours of relative humidity >95% and allowing increased penetration of pesticides to the upper two-thirds of the canopy when applications were made with an airblast sprayer. Effective fruit thinning is also important for effective control of SBFS. When fruit are clustered together in groups of three or more, fruit surfaces in the middle of the cluster are slow to dry and become almost inaccessible to spray droplets as the fruit increase in size. Where necessary, hand thinning to break up fruit clusters will help to reduce the incidence of sooty blotch and flyspeck at harvest.

The primary means of managing sooty blotch and flyspeck is via fungicide applications during July and August. Four or five summer fungicide applications may be needed to control these diseases in wet years, whereas only two or three well-timed applications are needed in dry years. Fungicides applied to control scab and mildew at petal fall and first cover are usually adequate for protecting apples from flyspeck ascospores. In the northeast, the fungi causing sooty blotch are generally more sensitive to fungicides than is the flyspeck fungus, so flyspeck almost always appears first in orchards with marginal fungicide protection. Summer fungicides timed to control flyspeck will almost always provide adequate control of sooty blotch.

Following discharge of flyspeck ascospores during the 2-3 weeks after petal fall, the risk of flyspeck infection is relatively low until the time when ascospore-initiated infections in hedgerows and woodlots begin producing conidia for secondary spread of the flyspeck fungus. This seems to occur after about 250-280 hr of accumulated wetting after petal fall (AW-PF) on apples. During this interval from 3 weeks after PF until 250 hr AW-PF, the risk of SBFS infection on apples is relatively low and fungicide coverage can usually be relaxed (provided, of course, that primary scab has been completely controlled). Beginning at 250 hr AW-PF, however, the risk of secondary flyspeck infections gradually increases until harvest.

Research has shown that Topsin M, Sovran, and Flint provide post-infection activity against sooty blotch and flyspeck. Their post-infection activity decreases as the time between infection and fungicide application increases. Although there are still some data gaps with

Sovran and Flint, tests completed to date suggest that all three of these fungicides have reasonable activity against flyspeck infections if the fungicides are applied before infections are exposed to 100 hr of accumulated wetting. Working in North Carolina, Brown and Sutton (1995) showed that sooty blotch and flyspeck appear on fruit only after fruit are exposed to 275-300 hours of accumulated wetting following infection. Thus, it appears that Topsin M, Sovran, or Flint will provide post-infection control of flyspeck and sooty blotch so long as the infections are less than one-third of the way through the incubation period.

When Topsin M, Sovran, or Flint are used for July-August sprays, the period of relaxed fungicide coverage in June and early July can probably be extended until 350 hr AW-PF (250 hr for development of flyspeck conidia plus 100 hr of post-infection activity). Even in dry years, however, trees should probably be protected with fungicides during the latter half of July because fungicide spray coverage later in the season may be compromised as apple size increases (thereby increasing contact surface areas between adjoining fruit) and as limbs bend down under crop load. Should a dry summer suddenly turn wet in August, SBFS could cause huge losses in orchards that were not protected prior to the rains.

Pre-determining the timing for the last SBFS spray in August or September is impossible because the need for additional sprays during that period is based on the weather. Last year at the Hudson Valley Lab, we recorded nearly 3.5 inches of rain in the first two days of September and then accumulated 270 hr of wetting by 30 Sept. Growers who did not re-apply a fungicide after the rains of 1-2 September noted that flyspeck seemed to appear overnight at the end of September on fruit that were not yet harvested. The trick to correctly timing the last fungicide spray in 2003 was to correctly guess how many hours of wetting would accumulate after the rains of 1-2 September and before fruit would be harvested. (Remember that 270 hr of wetting are required to complete the incubation period.) Growers who gambled on a dry or even a "normal" September lost that bet in 2003. Those who applied fungicide during the first week of September (on the assumption that September would be wet) were the winners in 2003.

Although an early September spray may be needed in exceptionally wet years, sprays applied during late August and September will not compensate for coverage gaps during July and August because none of our fungicides can completely eradicate SBFS after infections on fruit are older than 100 hr of accumulated wetting. Therefore, sprays between early July and mid-August remain the most critical timing for controlling SBFS under NY conditions in most years. Earlier and later sprays are needed in wet years, but two or 3 applications between 15 July and 15 Aug are almost always essential.

Submitted by Win Cowgill, Agricultural Agent. □

Fruit IPM

Dean Polk, Fruit IPM Agent

Peach

✓ **Oriental Fruit Moth (OFM):** The second brood is about 97% hatched in southern counties, and about 12% hatched in northern counties. Degree day spray timings are as follows for the second generation, and the start of the third generation, updated since last week:

Application and Insecticide Type		
County Area	Standard Insecticides	Intrepid
Southern	Done, 3 rd gen. sprays start about 7/10-13	Done, 3 rd gen. sprays start about 7/10
Central	Done, 3 rd gen. sprays start about 7/12-14	Done, 3 rd gen. sprays start about 7/12
Northern	2 nd gen. - 1 st trt. 6/22-24, 2 nd trt. 7/4-5	2 nd gen. - 1 st trt. 6/20-22, 2 nd trt. 7/2-4

✓ **Tufted Apple Budmoth (TABM):** Treatments for the first brood are over throughout the state. TABM hatch is 100% complete in southern counties and about 97% complete in northern counties. The next treatments will be due for the second generation by the end of July in southern counties and the beginning of August in northern counties.

County Area	Spray Type		
	AM	EM	Intrepid - EM
Southern	Done, 2 nd gen. sprays start about 7/28 – 8/1	1 st gen. done	1 st gen. done
Central	1 st gen. done	1 st gen. done	1 st gen. done
Northern	1 st gen. done	1 st gen. done	1 st gen. done

✓ **Catfacing Insects (Tarnished Plant Bugs-TPB and Stink Bugs-SB):** Insect pressure is high in a number of blocks. Many orchards have ground covers composed of flowering weeds and clover, which makes an ideal habitat for catfacing insects. These insects breed and multiply in the ground cover, and then find their way to the peach fruit. Damage may appear as water soaked areas, bleeding spots on the fruit, or depressed calloused tissue. The damage may also be more insidious, in that while the initial probing may not be obvious, it like other injuries makes the fruit more susceptible to brown rot infection.

✓ **Brown Rot:** Thundershowers and irrigations done around periods of warm temperatures and high humidity can provide good opportunities for brown rot infection. An improved fungicide schedule should be initiated 2 to 3 weeks prior to the first picking. Some early nectarine

blocks have recently been seen with about 10% brown rot infection. The strobilurins (Abound or Flint) are probably the most effective compounds that can be used for preharvest brown rot, especially if infections are already present in the block. If you also grow apples, then use Flint in place of Abound. If significant brown rot is already present, then use a 3 oz/Ac rate in place of a 2 oz. rate. Follow this application with an SI fungicide. Make sure to also control catfacing insects during this time.

✓ **European Red Mites (ERM):** Mites are still present in a number of peach blocks. In most cases, growers are going to want a quick knock down material. Be aware that Apollo and Savey can be slow acting and they have long REIs (21 and 28 days). Nexter and Acramite are the two best options at this time of year. Make sure to alternate these materials, use enough spray volume, and apply to both sides of the tree. Acramite does not work in alkaline water. Make sure the spray mix is neutral or slightly acidic when using Acramite.

Apple

✓ **Spotted Tentiform Leafminer (STLM):** Leafminers are present in a number of apple blocks, but above treatment levels on several farms in southern counties. Remember that insecticides applied for leafminer must target newly hatched and young sapfeeding larvae. Where the levels justify treatment, now is a good time to treat.

✓ **San Jose Scale (SJS):** Crawlers are still present where scale is a problem pest. These should be targeted with an increased spray volume if at all possible.

✓ **Codling Moth (CM):** Since we are between 1st and 2nd generations, very little activity is present. However, things are moving faster and earlier this season, compared to last season. We expect that the first sprays for the second generation will be due in southern counties by around 7/5-6 with standard materials, or around 7/3-4 with Assail, Calypso and Intrepid. The following chart updates timings outlined in last week's newsletter.

Application and Insecticide Type - 2 nd Generation		
County Area	OP's, Carbamates, Pyrethroids, Avaunt	Assail, Calypso and Intrepid
Southern	7/5-6	7/3-5
Central	About 7/8-9	About 7/5-6
Northern	About 7/13-14	About 7/11-12

✓ **Tufted Apple Budmoth (TABM):** See peach section.

✓ **Summer Diseases – Sooty Blotch and Fly Speck:** In addition to white rot and black rot, these are critical diseases to control at this time. Topsin-M, Sovran or Flint can be included for control. For a more complete discussion, see the previous article from Scaffolds by Bill Turechek and Dave Rosenberger.

Blueberry

✓ **Leafrollers and Other External Worms:** Leafroller larvae are present in about 18% of beating samples. Larvae are present in about 55% of fruit samples, but at very low levels. While leafroller incidence is low, it still

SEE IPM ON PAGE 6

IPM FROM PAGE 5

merits a couple of cautions. 1) **Redbanded leafroller** trap counts are peaking. These adults will produce a second (summer) brood of larvae. 2) Some early **obliquebanded leafroller** larvae were recently seen in fruit clusters. And the point is:

If growers are using repeated applications of Provado for **aphid** control, you should be aware that nothing is being done for a potential leafroller issue. Growers in this case may wish to alternate Provado use with Lannate.

✓ **Aphids:** Counts are similar to those found last week. Aphids are present in about 75% of samples. About 41% of samples are above 10% terminals infested.

✓ **Blueberry Maggot:** There is no change in the status of this pest. Very few adults are being captured. However, if on a calendar based program, these sprays need to be continued. Growers in the IPM program for Canadian exports need only apply whenever any trap exceeds 1 fly per trap per production area.

✓ **Oriental Beetle (OB):** Trap counts are at similar levels as seen last week, as adults continue to emerge and lay eggs. See the Admire label and the notes from the previous newsletters for control suggestions.

✓ **Anthracnose:** The first significant field infections were seen on 6/23 at one location only in Bluecrop. This field had 2% of samples which were positive, which translated to fruit infections of 1 per 1000 fruit. This is significant since this is approximately .4% per pint of berries, and putting any infected fruit in the pack is not good. Given the weather patterns we have had, growers may wish to continue fungicide applications as late as possible. Both Abound and Cabrio are effective for both **Anthracnose** and **Alternaria** and have a "0" day PHI.

✓ **Alternaria:** Field infections of Alternaria have also been noted in Bluecrop at the rate of 2 per 1000 fruit. Since alternaria also increases in storage, no amount of infected fruit should be in the pack. Treatments should continue as close to harvest as possible.

Insect Trap Captures

Tree Fruit – Southern Counties

WeekEnd	STLM	TABM-A	CM	AM	OFM-A	DWB	OFM-P	TABM-P	LPTB	PTB
4-Jun	460	32	4		0	14	4	43	33	2
11-Jun	762	19	2		2	37	5	24	45	4
18-Jun	1042	15	3		4	25	8	14	30	5
25-Jun	1729	4	3		3	30	14	4	62	7

Tree Fruit – Northern Counties

WeekEnd	STLM	TABM-A	CM	AM	OFM-A	DWB	OFM-P	TABM- P	LPTB	PTB
4-Jun	32.3	45.4	5.0		0.0	16.0	6.2	42.4		
11-Jun	468.2	39.4	9.8		0.0	12.0	12.1	34.8	5.7	0.0
18-Jun	541.8	35.1	8.1		0.0	12.3	19.1	46.0	4.1	0.5
25-Jun	520.0	20.2	3.9		0.0	3.0	21.2	24.3	2.4	0.1

Blueberry – Atlantic County

Week End	CBFW	RBLR	OBLR	SNLH	OR BEET	BBM
5-Jun	0.6	89.7	9.9	0.3	10.7	0.1
11-Jun	0.5	113.8	8.1	0.1	415.3	0.0
18-Jun	0.1	148.3	3.4	0.3	2826.5	0.05
25-Jun	0.1	69.0	2.9	0.3	2943.3	0.03

Blueberry – Burlington County

Week End	CBFW	RBLR	OBLR	SNLH	OR BEET	BBM
5-Jun	19.8	13.6	42.0	4.6	10.2	0.2
11-Jun	1.3	21.5	15.0	1.8	20.4	0.03
18-Jun	1.5	40.2	5.0	3.5	395.5	0.1
25-Jun	1.4	60.1	6.0	1.8	1166.7	0.05

IDFTA Growers Tour Honeycrisp™ in Wisconsin and Minnesota

*Win Cowgill, Agricultural Agent and Jon
Clements, Extension Fruit Specialist UMASS*

The International Dwarf Fruit Association has a long history of conducting summer tours of grower orchards. This year was no exception with over 160 growers, extension workers and researchers attending this year's "Honeycrisp™" summer tour to Wisconsin and Minnesota. In a beautiful part of the world, we visited orchards on the bluffs and hills located in both states, straddling the Mississippi river.

A full photo documentary with written comments is located online at the IDFTA website:

<http://www.idfta.org/2004/summertour/summertour.html>

This year the tour focused on Honeycrisp™ apple, released from the University of Minnesota breeding program in the mid 1970's. First crossed in 1960, it was selected in 1974 and tested as MN 1711. Its parentage is unknown. This apple has been planted extensively over the past 10 years in colder growing areas around the world. It is estimated there are over one million trees in the ground.

In the last New Jersey Orchard Survey published in 1999, Honeycrisp™ was the second most widely planted apple in New Jersey in the 1 - 3 year age group. Honeycrisp™ grows best in Northern climates; basically anywhere you can grow good high color McIntosh apples. That doesn't make one think of New Jersey except for the northern most counties in some years. However Honeycrisp™ is such a high quality eating apple that New Jersey growers are having success with it even if it doesn't color. Offering samples to taste will sell this apple every time.

The interest has remained high with this apple because of the high prices growers are receiving upwards of \$600-\$800 per bin of premium high colored fruit. \$40 a packed box wholesale was the norm last season. Growers selling Honeycrisp™ retail are demanding and receiving \$2.00-\$2.50 a pound for this apple!

Much of the tour and discussion focused on how to maintain the quality and prices for Honeycrisp™

For more details on the apple and tree itself visit:
http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/components/5877_01.html

The IDFTA tour featured visits to six orchards. All sold apples wholesale and retail by these growers. More details of the orchards and stops can be found in the online photo journal located on:

<http://www.IDFTA.org>



Jon Clements, UMASS and Win Cowgill, Rutgers, overlook the Mississippi River from Pepin Heights Orchards, Minnesota, on the 2004 IDFTA summer tour.

Calendar of Events

June 30, 2004 – 5:00 p.m. – Twilight Fruit Research Meeting at Rutgers Ag Research and Extension Center, 121 Northville Road, Bridgeton, NJ. Contact: Jerry Frecon, Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Gloucester County at 856-307-6450 ext 1.

July 8, 2004 – 3:30 p.m. – USDA/Rutgers University Blueberry Field Day at the Phillip E. Marucci Center for Blueberry and Cranberry Research and Extension, 125A Lake Oswego Road, Chatsworth, NJ. For additional information and directions call the research center at 609-726-1590.

July 11- 14, 2004 - Northeastern Branch Agronomy-Soils Meeting, along with Certified Crop Advisor Training Programs in Nutrient Management and in Turfgrass Science, EcoComplex, Bordentown, NJ. Contact: Registration can be done online at: www.ecocomplex.rutgers.edu/nebasa/. To receive a registration form by fax or mail, contact Joseph Heckman at Cook College at 732-932-9711, ext. 119.

July 22, 23, 24, 25, 2004 - Thursday thru Sunday – New Jersey Peach Festival and Gloucester County 4-H Fair will be held at the 4-H Fairgrounds, Rte. 77, Mullica Hill, NJ. Program information forthcoming on website <http://gloucester.rce.rutgers.edu/>

NJ Pesticide Applicator Units to be provided at each of the evening fruit meetings.

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Newsletter Production

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