

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

CRANBERRY EDITION \$1.50

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Field Update

Dan Schiffhauer, Agricultural Specialist, Ocean Spray Cranberries

The insects have finally appeared! **Blossom worm** is very evident on many beds and night sweeping is highly recommended for those growers who have not done so yet. I strongly suspect that this was one of the years when blossom worm larvae become nocturnal almost immediately upon hatching. At this point there should be very few blossom worm eggs left to hatch. I did find some newly hatched blossom worm over the Memorial Day weekend, but by now they should all have hatched.

Blackheaded fireworm has turned up in a few places and growers should be very careful to look for this pest. Blackheaded fireworm has a very short maturation time and can slip by during the first generation if care is not taken. The second generation larvae tend to show up during bloom and can do extensive damage. Fortunately, we now have two very good materials to spray during bloom for insects such as this one: Confirm and Intrepid. However, it is much better to catch this insect pre-bloom and not have to fight them during bloom. Once this pest becomes established on farm they can be hard to eradicate. Good spray coverage is imperative.

Spotted fireworm should be reaching pupation fairly quickly and their webbed "nests" are now easy to spot. There is a very strong natural enemies complex that attacks this beast and in most cases growers are better off not spraying for spotted fireworm. The natural enemies will usually keep this insect under fairly good control. This insect is hard to kill with organophosphate insecticides such as Lorsban and Diazinon, but responds well to either Confirm or Intrepid.

Sparganothis larvae can be found, but no pupae or adults have been spotted yet. I expect the first adults to begin flying during the next 5-7 days, so growers will want to put pheromone traps out during that time. *Sparganothis* trap numbers have been significantly lower over the last 5 years and this is probably due to two things: less spraying overall and the use of compounds such as Confirm and Intrepid. I think that growers should pay attention to trap counts and compare with past years. It may not be necessary to treat post-pollination for *Sparganothis* in some areas.

There has been some mention of **tipworm**, i.e. what about it? Because of the cool spring and slow start some growers are worried that tipworm could be a significant problem this year. I don't think that will

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Save the Date - 2005 Cranberry Growers Twilight Meeting

Ray Samulis, Burlington County Agricultural Agent

As most growers know, Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension usually has a hands-on grower meeting to look at problems in the field, new technologies, obtain pesticide credits and socialize with other growers and researchers. Last season the meeting was not held due to the untimely death of Sridhar. I am again instituting the program for 2005 and will hold a twilight meeting for the evening of June 23, 2005 at the Marucci Cranberry/Blueberry Center. The program will include disease information; horticultural traits of cranberries, bee information, and water allocation permit information amongst other topics. I am working on getting food and pesticide credits at this time. I will post the full program agenda in the next issue of this newsletter. I cannot guarantee the weather, however I can guarantee a good program: good food, numerous pesticide credits, and camaraderie for all those who attend. See you all there. ☐

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be the case, remember that development of all insects is tied to plant development and the same cold that retarded plants is going to retard tipworm. Tipworm was a major problem in the days of late drawing but although detectable now does not cause significant damage. Effective spraying for tipworm would involve sampling uprights and looking for eggs; something that very few growers are willing to undertake. If you spray when the damage is apparent, i.e. cupped leaves at the upright tip, it is already too late. By then tipworm larvae have already completed development. I have not seen many signs of tipworm on Ben Lear beds that have hook, so I am not worrying unduly about this insect. Tipworm may be a problem this year, but I don't think the risk justifies undue spraying. ☐

Good Agricultural Practices Program

The following items are available from the Good Agricultural Practices Program at Rutgers Cooperative Research & Extension of Cumberland County.

| Item | Price |
|--|---------|
| Food Safety Begins on the Farm A Growers' Guide (in English) | \$3.00 |
| Food Safety Begins on the Farm A Growers' Guide (in Spanish) | \$3.00 |
| Reduce Microbial Risks with GAPs (in English) | \$.50 |
| Reduce Microbial Risks with GAPs (in Spanish) | \$.50 |
| Laminated Hand Washing Poster | \$1.00 |
| Laminated Toilet Use Poster | \$1.00 |
| Laminated Toilet Paper Disposal Poster | \$1.00 |
| A Growers Self Assessment of Food Safety Risks | \$15.00 |
| Fruits, Vegetables and Food Safety: Health and Hygiene on the Farm-Worker Training Video VHS | \$20.00 |
| DVD | \$20.00 |

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