

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

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Charles Kuperus, Theresa Holtzhauser, New Jersey Peach Queen - Alyse Scaffidi and Tom Holtzhauser at 2005 New Jersey Peach Festival

Holtzhauser Farms Receives Commercial and Select Awards at 2005 NJ Peach Festival

Jerome L. Frecon, Agricultural Agent

Tom Holtzhauser had a great lot of Glen Glo peaches from his Mullica Hill Orchards entered at this year's festival. Both the three hand selected boxes of 2¼, 2½, and 2¾ inch and up peaches, and the commercial boxes which I selected from his cold storage garnered all the first place ribbons at the 23rd annual festival. Tom received the Governor's Cup for his 2¼ box of Glen Glo with a score of 94 points. He also received 2 dinners for two for the best box in the commercial and select categories. Bill and Penni Heritage of Heritage Tree Fruit in Richwood received the first place award for their 2¾ inch box of White Lady and best of the Specialty Peach Category, Santo John Maccherone, Circle M. Farms of Mullica Hill garnered first place for his 2¾ inch box of Eastern Glo Nectarines. The largest peach was the variety Salem, weighing almost 1 1/5 pounds selected by Richard Mood of Mullica Hill. Secretary of Agriculture Charles Kuperus as well as local legislators and freeholders were on hand to present awards. Larry Hardwick and his crew of Jersey Fresh inspectors again handled the judging as the tenth different shipper garnered the best of show trophy over the past ten years.

Good weather blessed this year's festival as over 25,000 people attended as part of the Gloucester County 4-H Fair. In addition to the peach pak competitions, the Little Peach and Peach Blossom Queens were selected and crowned. Alyse Scaffadi, granddaughter of Lewis DeEugenio and niece of Dr. Lewis DeEugenio Jr., owners of Summit City Farms in Glassboro, was selected New Jersey Peach Queen for 2005. Alyse will represent the industry at various peach promotional events and other activities.

Amy Link of Franklinville won the Peach Bakeoff for the best recipe for peaches. Recipes from this and previous bakeoff contests are being put together for a peach recipe booklet.

The Festival was also a success promotionally as wide publicity was received in Philadelphia and South Jersey newspapers, Philadelphia TV news reports, New Jersey Network news, and various country living and food magazines, all to the benefit of the NJ peach industry.

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The sales of peaches and other peach products at the festival raised money for peach promotion. Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension provided educational exhibits of peach research, peach varieties and peach pest management.

The following is a complete listing of the winners of the 83 entries in the commercial category:

Commercial Category = ½ bushel boxes of yellow-fleshed peaches as they are packed in commercial packinghouses for wholesale sales.

Class 2¼ inches on diameter sized peaches

1st place – Holtzhauser Farms, Holtzhauser Farms label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

This box was also best of this category and the best of show. Secretary of Agriculture Kuperus awarded the Governors Cup to Tom, Stacy and Theresa Holtzhauser for this box.

2nd place - Heilig Orchards, Jersey Fruit label, Richwood, New Jersey

3rd place – Heritage Tree Fruit, LLC, Heritage Tree Fruit label, Richwood, New Jersey

Class 2½ inches in diameter sized peaches

1st place – Holtzhauser Farms, Holtzhauser Farms label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

2nd place – Summit City Farms, Jersey Fruit label, Glassboro, New Jersey

3rd place – F. and R. Grasso Farms, Jersey Fruit label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

Class 2¾ inches in diameter peaches

1st place – Holtzhauser Farms, Holtzhauser Farms label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

2nd place – Summit City Farms, Jersey Fruit label, Glassboro, New Jersey

3rd place – Heilig Orchards, Jersey Fruit label, Richwood, New Jersey

Select Category = ½ bushel boxes of yellow fleshed peaches hand selected for the peach pack competition at the festival

Class 2¼ inches in diameter sized peaches

1st place – Holtzhauser Farms, Holtzhauser Farms label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

2nd place - A.L. Gaventa and Sons, Jersey Fruit label, Logan Township, New Jersey

3rd place – JerZee Orchards, JerZee Orchards label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

Class 2½ inches in diameter sized peaches

1st place – Holtzhauser Farms, Holtzhauser Farms label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

2nd place – A.L. Gaventa and Sons, Jersey Fruit label, Logan Township, New Jersey

3rd place – Zee Orchards, JerZee label, Richwood, New Jersey



Class 2¾ inches in diameter sized peaches

1st place – Holtzhauser Farms, Holtzhauser Farms label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

This box was also the best of the select category

2nd place – Zee Orchards, JerZee label, Richwood, New Jersey

3rd place – JerZee Orchards, JerZee label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

Specialty Category – ½ bushel boxes of white-fleshed peaches and nectarines, yellow-fleshed nectarines and the individual largest peaches in the competition.

Class white-fleshed peaches and nectarines

1st place – Heritage Tree Fruit LLC., Jersey Fruit label, Richwood, New Jersey

This box was also the best in the specialty category

2nd place – Larchmont Farms, Just Picked label, Elmer, New Jersey

3rd place - Haynicz Bros Orchards, Haynicz Bros label, Monroeville, New Jersey

Class yellow-fleshed nectarines

1st place – Circle M. Farms, Circle M label, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

2nd place – Summit City Farms, Jersey Fruit label, Glassboro, New Jersey

3rd place – Zee Orchards, JerZee label, Glassboro, New Jersey

Class largest peach by weight

1st place at 1.16 pounds – Moods Farm Market, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

2nd place at 1.12 pounds - A.L. Gaventa and Sons, Logan Township, New Jersey

3rd place at 1.10 pounds - JerZee Orchards, Mullica Hill, New Jersey

Varieties Ripening from Sentry to Flavorcrest

Jerome L. Frecon, Agricultural Agent

There are many promising varieties in this season from Sentry to Redhaven (see table below). Sentry is still one of the best although it had quite a few split pits and does not maintain its firmness. All of the yellow-fleshed peaches exhibit only slight differences in flavor with the exception of Vulcan. Of course the low acid white-fleshed nectarines have outstanding flavor as well as the yellow-fleshed nectarine Honey Kist. Honey Kist is a challenge to produce 2½ inch diameter fruit. Size has been good on two yellow-fleshed peaches that have been difficult to size in the past: Flamin Fury PF 7; Summer Prince. We have tested WB 258 or Summer Serenade for 16 years and are still puzzled why more growers do not plant it. It is firm, attractive, sizes well, productive, and hangs well. Snow Prince, Arctic Star, Arctic Sweet, Sugar May, Arctic Glo, Easternglo, Honey Kist, Nustar are all quite susceptible to **bacterial spot** and the nectarines **brown rot**.



GaLa

GaLa has fruited for 4 years and looks better each season. One grower who has a large planting has seen quite a bit of **bacterial leaf spot** which I have not seen in the test block. This pretty peach ripens exactly between Sentry and Redhaven. Vulcan is another interesting peach as an attractive, non-melting clingstone with very good flavor and great size in this season

VARIETY	CROP LOAD	RIPENING	% of Fruit Over 2 ½"	% of Fruit Over 2 ¾"	% of Split Pits	SSC
Harrow Dawn	Heavy	7/12	100%	84%	29%	9.6 %
Arctic Star White Nectarine	Medium	7/12	100%	40%	10%	13.3%
Snow Prince	Medium	7/13	100 %	65%	64%	9.9%
Sentry	Medium	7/14	100%	100%	42%	9.11%
Sugar May White Peach	Medium	7/14	67%	35%	2%	10.2%
Glen Glo	Medium	7/16	100%	69%	6%	9.2%
Golden Monarch	Medium	7/18	58%	6%	0%	9.6%
Flamin Fury PF7	Heavy	7/18	100%	55%	27%	8.8%
Arctic Sweet White Nectarine	Medium	7/18	100%	50%	2%	12%
Rising Star	Heavy	7/19	100%	29%	27%	9.4%
Summer Prince	Medium	7/19	73%	17%	6%	9.3%
Summer Serenade	Med-Heavy	7/20	100%	59%	0%	9.6%
Arctic Glo White Nectarine	Heavy	7/20	100%	45%	2%	10.3%
Nustar Nectarine	Medium	7/21	100%	40%	40%	10.3%
Vulcan	Heavy	7/21	100%	71%	0%	10%
Easternglo Nectarine	Heavy	7/21	90%	65%	3%	9.1%
Summer Prince	Heavy	7/22	100%	19%	0%	9.4%
Vulcan	Heavy	7/23	100%	34%	0%	10.8%
Gala	Med-Heavy	7/23	100%	82%	7%	9.4%
Honey Kist (Nectarine)	Heavy	7/23	60%	0%	2%	13.9%

Fruit IPM

Dean Polk, Fruit IPM Agent and David Schmitt and Eugene Rizio, Program Associates, Tree Fruit IPM

Peach

✓ **Oriental Fruit Moth (OFM):** The treatment window for OFM has now closed in southern counties. Growers should use trap captures for the rest of the season to determine the need for treatment. Any captures above an average of 6 moths/trap indicates the need for insecticide. Degree day spray timings are as follows, updated since last week:

OFM Timings - Application and Insecticide Type		
County Area	Standard Insecticides	Intrepid
Southern	past	past
Central	1 st spray for 3 rd gen. past, 2 nd spray – 8/3-4	1 st spray for 3 rd gen. past, 2 nd spray – 8/3-4
Northern	1 st spray for 3 rd gen. past, 2 nd spray – 8/7-9	1 st spray for 3 rd gen. past, 2 nd spray – 8/7-9

✓ **Tufted Apple Budmoth (TABM):** Pressure as indicated by trap counts has risen slightly but overall remains lower than normal. Timings are updated in the following table:

TABM Timings - Application and Insecticide Type – Brood 2			
County Area	OP's, Carbamates, Spintor, Pyrethroids (Conv.)		Intrepid
	4 alt mid sprays	2 complete sprays	2 complete sprays
Southern	1 st – 8/3-4; 2 nd – 8/8-10	1 st – 8/5-8; 2 nd – 8/18-21	1 st – 8/6-8; 2 nd – 8/18-21
Central	1 st – 8/5-6; 2 nd – 8/10-11	1 st – 8/6-8; 2 nd – 8/19-21	1 st – 8/8-9; 2 nd – 8/19-21
Northern	1 st – 8/8-9; 2 nd – 8/15-16	1 st – 8/10-11; 2 nd – 8/25-28	1 st – 8/13-8/16; 2 nd – 8/25-28

✓ **Scale Insects:** Second generation San Jose Scale and second generation White Peach Scale crawlers have recently begun emergence. The most effective materials for control of the crawler stage include Diazinon, Esteem, and Centaur. Diazinon has a 24hr REI, 21 day PHI, Esteem and Centaur each have a 12 hr REI, 14 day PHI. If crawlers need to be controlled, make sure to use plenty of spray volume (min. 100 gal./Ac). See the June 7 issue on the web for a more in-depth article. If scale is present in blocks too close to harvest to use one of the above materials, Provado @ 8 ozs./ac. May provide suppression. Provado has a 0 day PHI.

✓ **Catfacing Insects:** Increased Stink Bug activity was noted last week, especially in blocks near where grain crops had been harvested. In addition fresh injury was found on several farms. Intrepid or Spintor will not control catfacing insects. There may still be time on late maturing varieties for O.P.s and Pyrethroids. In blocks less than two to three weeks to harvest, Lannate will provide some control.

Apple

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

✓ **Codling Moth (CM):** CM larvae are about 90% hatched in southern counties, and are about 70% hatched in northern counties. No further treatment for codling moth should be necessary unless trap captures average above 5 moths/trap.

✓ **Sooty Blotch and Flyspeck; Bitter Rot (Anthracnose):** Disease symptoms have been appearing for several weeks now. Several northern county orchards are reporting high percentages of marked fruit. Most

likely these infections occurred during frequent rainfalls in late June and early July. Heavy morning dews are contributing to high disease pressure now so coverage must be maintained. Consider solid sprays for improved spray coverage.

Blueberry

✓ **Leafroller Larvae and Fruit Injury (Redbanded Leafroller (RBLR) and Obliquebanded Leafroller (OBLR)):** Our tray samples for worms have uncovered very few pests, however, our samples of hanging fruit have shown a moderate incidence of live RBLR larvae. When seen they are tucked away in the cluster so that insecticide applications may not reach them. About 47% of fruit samples were positive for fresh worm feeding. The level of injury where seen was usually 2 or 3 injured berries per 1000. Some farms have had levels of 20-30 berries per 1000 injured, with some live larvae present.

✓ **Aphids:** Only 16% of samples have been positive. No samples reached the 10% infestation level. This is a sharp drop since last week. For all practical purposes aphid sprays are over for the season.

✓ **Scarab Beetle Activity (Oriental and Japanese Beetles):** Very few sightings have been made of fruit and/or leaf feeding. Only 6% of our fruit samples have had low levels of beetle injury. The flights for both insects are essentially over. All treatments for Oriental Beetle should have already been applied.

✓ **Blueberry Maggot (BBM):** Adult fly captures are at similar levels as those found over the last couple of weeks. However, since most of the Bluecrop is off, or will be off during the next several days, BBM is not an issue, even if 1 or 2 flies are still being caught. However, if flies are being caught on the borders of nearby, or in Elliott fields, then treatments need to be maintained on a 7 -10 day schedule. PHI's for various materials are:

Material	PHI (days)
Diazinon	7
Sevin	7
Lannate	3
Imidan	3
Spintor	3
Provado	3
Malathion	1

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Sooty Blotch and Flyspeck

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

Reprinted from SCAFFOLDS Fruit Journal, Volume 13, No. 15, Cornell University – New York Agricultural Experiment Station.

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 New York, 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 polystigmatum*. All three fungi are not necessarily present

in all sooty blotch lesions. Flyspeck is caused by the fungus *Schizothyrium pomi* (= *Zygophiala 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 condi-

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✓ **Anthracnose:** Incidence of infected fruit is higher than the previous week. 65% of our fruit samples were positive for disease and 21% are over the 1% infected level. Highest level seen was 7.5% in BC.

Insect Trap Counts

Tree Fruit Southern Counties

Week ending	STLM	TABM-A	CM	AM	OFM-A	DWB	OFM-P	TABM-P	LPTB	PTB
7/15/05	235	1	0		9	31	3	1	54	4
7/22/05	237	1	1		8	14	4	4	63	6
7/29/05	584	3	1		10	18	5	11	90	4

Northern Counties

Week ending	STLM	TABM-A	CM	AM	OFM-A	DWB	OFM-P	TABM-P	LPTB	PTB
7/15/05	90	3	0.5			19	3	3		
7/22/05	67	3	2	0	0	17	5	5		
7/29/05	185	2	3	0		25	5	2		

Key: STLM = Spotted Tentiform Leafminer, TABM = Tufted Apple Budmoth (A – apple, P – Peach), CM = Codling Moth, AM = Apple Maggot, OFM = Oriental Fruit Moth (A – apple, P – Peach), LPTB = Lesser Peachtree Borer, PTB = Peachtree Borer

Blueberry Trap Counts – Atlantic County

Week Ending	CBFW	RBLR	OBLR	SNLH	OB	BBM
7/15	0.00	30.75	0.40	0.01	1244.19	0.19
7/22	0.07	5.05	0.67	0.00	804.47	0.22
7/29	0.00	9.82	2.25	0.00	266.16	0.19

Blueberry Trap Counts – Burlington County

Week Ending	CBFW	RBLR	OBLR	SNLH	OB	BBM
7/15	0.00	10.70	0.50	0.38	1150.00	0.05
7/22	0.00	2.40	0.75	0.24	562.78	0.22
7/29	0.00	1.89	2.00	1.27	116.25	0.04

Key: CBFW = Cranberry Fruitworm, RBLR = Redbanded Leafroller, OBLR = Obliquebanded Leafroller, SNLH = Sharpnosed Leafhopper, OB = Oriental Beetle, BBM = Blueberry Maggot

tions, 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.

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. In 2003 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 New York conditions in most years. Earlier and later sprays are needed in wet years, but two or three applications between 15 July and 15 Aug are almost always essential.

Submitted by Win Cowgill, Agricultural Agent. □

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