

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

FRUIT EDITION \$1.50

SEPTEMBER 6, 2005



Left to Right Flamin Fury PF Lucky 24B and NJ K40-34 yellow-fleshed

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Finding a Replacement for Cresthaven

Jerome L. Frecon, Agricultural Agent

Cresthaven has long been an important yellow-fleshed variety in New Jersey, usually ripening from August 20 to 26. At one time I thought it was the perfect peach but like many varieties it has lost favor and in fact many blocks do not look like the original Cresthaven. Too many blocks have weak trees producing fruit with poor color, soft shoulder, large fruit that cracks and occasionally get spotting on the fruit. I remember one block of Cresthaven observed at a southern New Jersey orchard that had three plantings of Cresthaven from three different nurseries that all looked like different varieties. I am no longer sure what the real Cresthaven is.

Flaming Fury PF 25 is an attractive, crimson red skin yellow-fleshed peach ripening pretty much on Cresthaven. FFPF 25 ripening a few days later than Cresthaven may not be quite as large as the original Cresthaven but it is superior in most other characteristics. Flamin Fury PF 27A is not quite as red as FFPF 25 but is superior to Cresthaven and slightly larger than FFPF 25 over the years I have tested both. FFPF 27A seems to ripen more uniformly than Cresthaven.

Both Glowingstar, Flamin Fury PF 24-007 while introduced as being in Cresthaven season are decidedly earlier in New Jersey and barely overlap in most seasons. Flamin Fury PF Lucky 24 B has been tested for about 7 years as PF 219. This peach ripens on the front end of Cresthaven and may be a worthy replacement. It is an attractive variety, good 2 3/4 in diameter and hangs on the tree very well. Early in my evaluations I was picking the variety too soon as it can obtain good size when harvested at maturity.

Jerseyglo and Jerseyqueen are both varieties that overlap with Cresthaven. Jersey queen is still heavily planted because the tree is strong, fruit are very large and attractive. Unfortunately, too many growers cannot crop Jerseyqueen regularly and produce inconsistent crops of fruit. I have never really tested Jerseyglo but have seen some beautiful fruit in grower orchards. Fayette is the back end of Cresthaven but is not a consistent cropper and is susceptible to **bacterial spot**.

NJ K 40-34 is an exciting new variety developed at the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. NJK40-34 significantly overlaps Cresthaven and is very firm and attractive with a bright orange yellow undercolor. The fruit size has been very good 2 3/4 on my three year old

SEE CRESTHAVEN REPLACEMENTS ON PAGE 2

Fruit IPM

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

Peach

✓ **Lesser Peachtree Borer (LPTB) and Peachtree Borer (PTB):** Now is the time to treat for both 2nd generation LPTB and the single generation of PTB. Growers who have experienced high populations of PTB and LPTB and who are using mating disruption for the first time this year may also want to supplement this with an insecticide application. Experience has shown that it is very difficult to control high populations with mating disruption alone. Insecticide applications are directed against the young and emerging larvae. By now most PTB eggs have been laid and most larvae have emerged. Waiting until the end of the month or early October means that the larvae will be larger and deeper into the wood, and thus much more difficult to control. Most eggs of PBTB have also been laid, with larvae emerging. Sprays should be directed to the areas of insect activity. This means the butt of the tree for PTB and any Cytospora cankers on scaffolds and wood up to about 1" in diameter for LPTB. Lorsban is still the best material to use, followed by the pyrethroids such as Asana. Thiodan is also labeled for control. Make sure to apply the material dilute, preferably with a handgun. This is especially important for infestations of PTB, where a slight runoff or "puddling" is needed around the base of the tree. □

Apple Maturity Update for North-Central New Jersey

Win Cowgill, Agricultural Agent

Gala harvest is well underway in North Jersey and completed for many growers in southern New Jersey. Cool nights in the 50's and low 60's have triggered nice color on Galas, Macs, and Honeycrisp.

McIntosh harvest in North-Central Jersey. Please note the harvest date on each cultivar.

Gala

Central Jersey growers are cleaning up Gala at this writing, Warren county growers will continue Gala harvest.

Most Gala have excellent red color with sugar levels 12-15% brix, no less than 15-16 lbs pressure. While SI is not the best indicator for Gala, they should be 5-6 on the Gala Starch Chart for retail sales. While there is minimal cracking this year on Gala, most of the Gala blocks I have observed have smaller than normal size.

Warren Co.	Location	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch-Iodine
Tenroy Gala	Hope	9/02	No	19.6	13	8
Gala	Blairstown	9/05	No	16.7	11	7
Gala	Hackettstown	9/05	No	16.5	12	7
Hunterdon Co.	Location	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch
Treeco-42 Gala	Snyder Farm	9/05	Yes	18	11.5	7
Imperial Gala	Snyder Farm	9/05	1/2	19	11	9
Buckeye Gala	Snyder Farm	9/05	1/2	24	12	3.5
Lydia Red Gala	Snyder Farm	9/05	No	14	11	7
Stark Ultra Red	Snyder Farm	9/05	No	15	11.5	7
Gala	Oldwick	9/02	No	16	13	8

McIntosh

Growers in Central Jersey are into Macintosh and North Jersey should watch their Mac's closely for maturity development and drop. Applications of NAA can be used for stop drop, see the NAA article in the last issue of the Plant and Pest Advisory. Many blocks are colored nicely; sugars are developing. Central Jersey Mac harvest has begun with spot picking.

Growers in the Hudson Valley are rapidly harvesting Macs. Mike Fargione from Cornell Cooperative Extension reports very variable

SEE APPLE MATURITY ON PAGE 3

CRESTHAVEN REPLACEMENTS FROM PAGE 1

test trees. NJ K40-34 hangs on the tree well and we are currently evaluating the optimum time for harvest. Like some of the firm white-fleshed varieties the skin actually softens before the flesh. NJk40-34 has excellent low acid flavor and has been averaging about 1.5 to 2.1 % higher Soluble Solids Concentration than other yellow fleshed peaches. NJ D101-162 looked outstanding the last few years but was less exciting this season as the crop was light and the fruit irregular in shape and size.

Redskin and Jerseystar ripen on the back end of Cresthaven. Buddie's Pride a local variety from Hammonton also ripens in Cresthaven season.



Left to Right Flamin Fury PF Lucky 24B, Fruit Acres 86 and Cresthaven

ripening of Macs in the Hudson Valley, warning growers that some may be on the ground shortly if not harvested by the weekend. Our Macs at the Snyder Farm should be ready by week's end, higher colored strains like RedMax and Linda Red have colored nicely. Drought stressed Macs are not coloring and are more prone to drop.

Warren Co	Location	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch-Iodine
Rogers Red	Hope	9/2	no	16	12	5
McIntosh	Blairstown	9/05	no	16	11.6	5.5
MacSpur	Hackettstown	9/05	yes	15	11	5.3
Marshal Mac	Hackettstown	9/05	yes	18	?	3.4
Hunterdon	Location	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch-Iodine
Rogers Red	Snyder Farm	9/5	Yes	16.5	10.4	4.4

HoneyCrisp

Honeycrisp is beginning to develop red color. We have spot picked Honeycrisp for a week now. The fruit is mature, we are waiting for color. However, Honeycrisp drops if not treated with Retain or NAA, so be observant this year, especially if your trees are not irrigated and are drought stressed.

Warren Co	Location	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch-Iodine
Honeycrisp	Blairstown	9/5	no	16.6	12.2	6.4
Morris-Harding Twp.-		Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch-Iodine
Honeycrisp		9/1	Yes	19	14	7
Hunterdon-	Location	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch
Honeycrisp	Snyder Farm	9/05	Yes	14	11	6
Honeycrisp	Oldwick	9/1	?	15	12.6	6

Cortland

Cortland is an apple that has increased in popularity with newer strains being highly colored. Cortland is usually picked one week after Macs (remember Macs can be picked over 3 weeks if stop drop is used; normally around mid September at the Rutgers Snyder Farm. They do not starch test well but SI testing can be used as a guideline; target a starch of 5-6.

Hunterdon	Location	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch
Red Cort	Snyder Farm	9/5	No	19	12	1

Other Cultivars

Hunterdon-Snyder	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch
Macoun	9/5	yes	20.5	10.4	1.6

Warren Co	Location	Date	Retain	Pressure	Brix	Starch
Macoun	Blairstown	9/5	no	16	11	2
Macoun	Hackettstown	9/5	yes	19	11.5	1.2

Retain®: Reminder Retain® should be applied 28 days before anticipated harvest and with a 21 day Pre Harvest Interval (PHI). If blocks were not treated with Retain®, it is *not* too late this season to apply for September apples like Red Delicious and Empire, and October maturing apples such as Suncrisp, Fuji, and Stayman. ☐

Strawberry Update

Peter Probasco, Salem County
Agricultural Agent

Propagation of tips is doing well. Reduce fungi-cide sprays to once/week. A Ridomil (pt/A) treatment at planting should be made for **Phytophthora cactorum** control this fall through the drip. Spray for **leaf spot** control on a 3 week schedule this fall after planting. If you have some of the new Ovation plugs, set them out at a wider spacing (16-18 inches). This variety grows taller and wider than Chandler on plastic. **Gray-mold** can be a problem when Ovation is planted at the 12 inch spacing. A Devrinol and Sinbar spray for weed control between the beds should do a good job on the weeds. Do not use more than 2 ounces /A of Sinbar (80DF) on light sandy soil. ☐

Wine Grape Information for PA and the Region

Mark L. Chien, Wine Grape Agent, Penn State University Cooperative Extension

Rots - I was in vineyards last week and saw the beginning development of **botrytis, ripe and sour rots** in a wide range of grape varieties. It is somewhat distressing given that we still have weeks to go until harvest for the vinifera whites and reds. The warm, humid and localized rains in July and August have not helped us and while many vineyards appear to be clean on foliage and fruit, I have an uneasy sense that if the weather turns, it will not take much for these rot complexes to take over. The weather we are having now is very helpful. My experience is that the best cure for botrytis is dry weather and even existing infections will dry up with consistently dry weather (as in low rain and humidity). But growers should be vigilant about **grape berry moth**, birds, bees and anything that might create an opening for the opportunistic pathogens. Oddly, I have seen surprisingly few birds or bees so far. One grower told me that grapes recently sprayed with captan developed ripe rot 10 days later. This is troubling. At this point, keeping the canopy open and clusters apart may be the best strategy, and praying that this nice weather continues.

Birds - If you are planning to not lose your crop to birds this year, protection measures should have started 2-3 weeks ago. I still feel that nets are the best option and may, over the long term, be the most economical, especially if you factor in grape losses to birds and disease. But many growers do not use nets and must rely on other scare methods. Neil Carter, the OMAFRA IPM specialist in Ontario suggests starting control measure before the birds arrive and using a variety of methods instead of a single one (netting is an exception). Unpredictability is the key to upsetting birds so keep devices moving around and change the timing. Make sure your neighbors understand what you are doing and why. While he likes netting the best, he also recommends propane canons, electronic devices and pyrotechnics but does not recommend shotguns or personal presence in the vineyard. I would strongly disagree with the last statement. Scary-eye balloons are not effective on robins or waxwings. Yellow streamers work for blackbirds, red/silver are needed for other birds. Flashing lights and mirrors work for starlings. You can find much more information about Bird control at the OMAFRA web site at:

www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/engineer/facts/98-035.htm.

Submitted by Jerome L. Frecon, Agricultural Agent. □

Grape Production Guide

K. Demchak, Dept. of Horticulture, Penn State Univ.

Reprinted from Penn State Fruit Times, July 26, 2005, Vol.24, No. 7

Another great Extension publication is available. This one, the Midwest Grape Production Guide, Bulletin 919, contains 155 pages of very grower-friendly information. While written with Midwest production in mind, anyone growing grapes would benefit from having this publication. My favorite part is the plethora of illustrations and photos. It can be purchased by mailing a letter requesting this publication to Ohio State University Extension, Media Distribution, 385 Kottman Hall, 2021 Coffey Rd., Columbus, OH 43210-1044. You can also fax your letter to (614) 292-1248, or send it by email to pubs@ag.osu.edu. You can phone (614) 292-1607 with questions, but phone orders are not accepted. Include your name, street address, and phone - the guide will be shipped to you via a carrier that requires a street address, or preferably send the request on a letterhead so the information is clearly readable. Current cost is \$10.50 plus shipping and handling (shipping and handling cost will vary with number of copies, and where the purchase is being sent). You can either be invoiced and then pay by check, or you can charge the purchase to Mastercard or Visa only, but you'll need to include which card type, the card number, and expiration date with your request.

Submitted by Jerome L. Frecon, Agricultural Agent. □

Apple Harvest Training Video

Matt Harsh, Adams County Extension, Penn State Cooperative Extension

Reprinted from Penn State Fruit Times, July 26, 2005, Vol. 24, No. 7.

Harvest Success: A Guide to Better Apple Picking is now available from Penn State Cooperative Extension. This 14 minute Spanish/English production is designed to help orchardists better train their workers on proper apple harvesting techniques. The video covers six main topics: work preparation (proper dress, water, equipment), ladder skills (carrying a ladder, setting a ladder, tripod ladders), picking (the roll pick method, placing fruit in the picking bag, picking don'ts), spot picking, and transportation (bin hauling, stacking). Filmed in a Pennsylvania orchard using actual apple harvesters, this video is particularly suited for Mid-Atlantic orchardists looking to reduce harvest bruising. This production is available in both DVD and VHS formats for \$35 (includes both the Spanish and English versions) from Penn State Cooperative Extension of Adams County. To order, or for more information, contact Matt Harsh (717) 334-6271 ext. 321 rmh27@psu.edu or Amber Lockawich (717) 263-9226, all180@psu.edu.

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