

# PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

CRANBERRY EDITION \$1.50

APRIL 27, 2006



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## Insect Update

*Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Ph.D., Specialist in Entomology and Dan Schiffhauer, Agricultural Specialist, Ocean Spray Cranberries*

**Be Aware: azinphos-methyl and its formulations (azinphos-M 50W, guthion 50WSP) will be cancelled on 9/30/06. existing stocks should be used up this cropping year.**

**A**t this time, most growers in New Jersey have taken the water from winter flooding off their cranberry beds. We expect overwintering insects to become active as soon as plants start to break dormancy and vines start to grow.

Two insect pests bear special mention for early season scouting: **gypsy moth** and **blackheaded fireworm**.

✓ **Gypsy moth** - Gypsy moth eggs can successfully survive the winter flood on cranberry beds. Also, first instars "balloon" on silken threads from infested trees onto nearby cranberry beds. Either way, gypsy moths tend to be one of the earliest caterpillars to show up in cranberry beds, usually during the first week of May. They are quite easy to detect by means of sweep net sampling when they are small. Gypsy moth larvae are easy to control with most of the insecticides at our disposal: Confirm, Intrepid, Lorsban, etc., but also can be quite easily killed by re-flooding infested beds for a day.

✓ **Blackheaded fireworm** – Blackheaded fireworm eggs overwinter on the bed and usually hatch by around mid-May. It is important to catch the first generation, if possible, because the second generation occurs during bloom and is typically much more destructive. Blackheaded fireworm larvae can be detected by sweep sampling and it is good idea to look along the edges of bed where vines first begin to grow. Remember: blackheaded



*Gypsy Moth Larva*

SEE INSECT UPDATE ON PAGE 2

fireworm is much easier to control if detected during the early part of the season.

In a recent survey conducted at the Rutgers Blueberry/Cranberry Center, growers ranked **cranberry blossom worm** as the most important pest in New Jersey cranberries. Growers also identified **leafhoppers** as the insect most likely to become a major pest. Here we provide information on the biology of these two insects:



*Blackheaded Fireworm Larva*

✓ **Cranberry Blossom Worm** – Adults lay their eggs in October in cranberry beds. The eggs overwinter and hatch over a period of several weeks. Early instars can be found during the first week of May. Larvae go through 6 instars to complete development. Because the first instars feed during the day (and also at night), scouting can be done during the daytime using sweep nets to estimate larval abundance. Larvae turn nocturnal during the later instars. At this time, night sweeping (9 pm – 1 am) is recommended for sampling. Larvae complete their development by June-July. Older instars are very voracious and capable of destroying 100 blossoms within a 3-week period. There is a pre-pupal that lasts until the

end of August and a pupal stage that lasts until October. Adults emerge from end of August to end of October.

✓ **Leafhoppers** – In recent years, leafhopper abundance has stayed below threshold in New Jersey cranberry beds. There is, however, a concern among New Jersey cranberry growers of a potential increase in leafhopper populations because of recent changes in pest management strategies (e.g., adoption of new reduced-risk products and decreased applications of broad-spectrum insecticides). Leafhoppers are a major concern because they can transmit **cranberry false blossom** disease. Two species of leafhoppers are common in cranberry beds in New Jersey: the **blunt-nosed leafhopper** and the **sharp-nosed leafhopper**. Of the two, sharp-nosed leafhoppers can be found in higher abundance in cranberry beds. However, only blunt-nosed leafhoppers are reportedly capable of transmitting cranberry false blossom. The blunt-nosed leafhopper has one generation a year. Adults are found in highest numbers during July, although nymphs or adults may be found from the end of May until October. Eggs are laid in August-September. The eggs overwinter and hatch in May or June. The nymphs go through 5 instars to complete development. Early instars are very small (< 2 mm), therefore, monitoring adult populations during June-July is recommended using sweep nets. In the future, we may be able to monitor leafhopper populations using color sticky traps. This summer, we will be testing traps of different colors placed at different heights for their efficacy in trapping leafhoppers in cranberry beds. □

Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday 4/24/ 6										
WEATHER STATIONS	R A I N F A L L			TEMPERATURE				GDD BASE50		MON %FC
	WEEK	TOTAL	DEP	MX	MN	AVG	DEP	TOT	DEP	
CANOE BROOK	2.14	4.36	-3.40	84	41	57.	5	156	149	100
CHARLOTTEBURG	2.08	4.74	-2.83	81	38	53.	3	99	99	100
FLEMINGTON	3.24	5.78	-1.63	83	40	56.	4	144	135	100
NEWTON	1.62	4.07	-2.65	81	35	53.	2	107	107	100
FREEHOLD	2.07	4.67	-2.72	82	31	55.	1	171	149	100
LONG BRANCH	2.95	5.46	-2.19	75	44	55.	2	120	105	100
NEW BRUNSWICK	1.90	4.23	-2.83	84	43	57.	2	180	146	100
TOMS RIVER	2.66	4.21	-3.23	78	38	56.	3	151	135	100
TRENTON	2.16	4.63	-2.08	82	42	57.	2	176	131	100
CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE	1.35	2.76	-3.75	80	40	57.	2	173	137	99
DOWNSTOWN	1.54	3.32	-3.39	83	39	58.	2	187	138	100
GLASSBORO	2.41	4.31	-2.75	82	44	59.	4	210	165	100
HAMMONTON	1.51	3.49	-3.36	84	39	58.	3	194	152	100
POMONA	2.28	3.33	-3.27	81	40	57.	3	169	143	100
SEABROOK	2.43	4.26	-1.70	83	44	58.	2	252	201	100
SOUTH HARRISON	2.16	3.74	-2.89	82	45	59.	NA	237	NA	NA
WES KLINE — GDD BASE 40 PINEY HOLLOW LAST WEEK 124 (Ending 4/17/06) THIS WEEK 125 (Ending 4/24/06)										

## Notice of Request for Exemption for Use of Pronamide for Dodder Control in Cranberries

Source: [Federal Register: April 26, 2006 (Volume 71, Number 80)][Notices][Page 24692-24693]From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov][DOCID:fr26ap06-78]; Notice of Filing of a Pesticide Petition for Establishment of a Regulation for Residues of Metaldehyde in or on Various Food Commodities; see <http://epa.gov/EPA-PEST/2006/April/Day-26/>.

Background: The regulations governing section 18 of FIFRA require that EPA publish a notice in the Federal Register whenever they receive an application for a specific exemption proposing a use which has been requested in 3 or more previous years, and a petition for tolerance has not yet been submitted to EPA.

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources has requested EPA to grant a specific exemption (i.e., Section 18) for the use of pronamide (CAS No. 23950-58-5) to treat cranberries for control dodder. They provide in their request that 'dodder infestations have become practically ubiquitous in the Massachusetts cranberry production area' due to the widespread adoption of water harvesting.

The Federal Register Notice provides that:

...the detrimental impact of dodder infestations on cranberry yields have been reported widely in scientific journals, extension publications and internal memorandum. Yield losses can range from 12% in slight infestations up to 100% in severe infestations. Currently registered herbicides have not been totally effective, leading to a steady increase in dodder infestations.

The Applicant proposes to make no more than two pre-emergence broadcast applications at a rate of 1.0-2.0 lbs of product per acre (0.5-1.0 lbs acre (a.i.) on 8,000 acres of cranberries. No more than 2.0 lbs of product/acre/season 1.0 lbs a.i. may be made as a result of single or split application... □

## Recycle Those Plastic Pesticide Containers – Get One Core Credit

The NJ Department of Agriculture announces its 2006 schedule for a free program to recycle empty plastic pesticide containers at the Cumberland County Solid Waste Complex.

Non-refillable, high-density polyethylene # 2 (HDPE #2) containers used by agricultural, professional and commercial pesticide applicators will be accepted at the collection sites. In addition, HDPE #2 plastic pales, bulb crates, and similar items will be accepted.

Pesticide containers must be no larger than 55 gallons and triple rinsed. The MSDS booklet and the lid must be removed. The metal handles must be removed from the plastic pales.

The program is open to anyone who holds a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection pesticide license including state, county and municipal government agencies. Participants must follow the processing guide or the material will be rejected. You do not need a pesticide license to participate in the program if non-pesticide containers are recycled.

One core credit will be issued to NJDEP pesticide license holders who bring in properly rinsed pesticide containers. To receive credit, participants must bring their pesticide license to the collection site and must follow the processing steps. Pesticide credits will not be issued for recycling items other than pesticide containers.

Contact Karen Kritz, Recycling Program Manager, at (609) 984-2506 or [karen.kritz@ag.state.nj.us](mailto:karen.kritz@ag.state.nj.us) with questions about this recycling program or other recycling questions.

### 2006 Pesticide Container Collection Program Schedule

**Location:** Cumberland County Solid Waste Complex, 169 Jesse Bridge Road (located off Route 55 Exit 29), Deerfield, New Jersey

**Time:** 9 a.m. to Noon

**Dates:** Friday, May 19  
Friday, June 23  
Friday, July 28  
Friday, August 25  
Friday, September 22  
Friday, October 13  
Friday, November 17

FIRST CLASS  
POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #576  
MILLTOWN, NJ 08850

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[www.rce.rutgers.edu/pubs/plantandpestadvisory](http://www.rce.rutgers.edu/pubs/plantandpestadvisory)

**Pesticide User Responsibility:** Use pesticides safely and follow instructions on labels. The pesticide user is responsible for proper use, storage and disposal, residues on crops, and damage caused by drift. For specific labels, special local-needs label 24(c) registration, or section 18 exemption, contact RCRE in your County.

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