

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

CRANBERRY EDITION \$1.50

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New Jersey Field Update

Dan Schiffhauer-Agricultural Scientist, Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc.

It appears that *Sparganothis* trap catch is peaking this week. Following traditional practice, growers intending to target a post-pollination spray for *Sparganothis* would time the spray for two weeks after peak flight. This usually works out to just about the time that growers are removing honeybee colonies. *Sparganothis* was by far the most important fruit pest of cranberry in New Jersey 10 years ago, with virtually every grower spraying post-pollination for control. During the last 5 years or so, *Sparganothis* counts in pheromone traps have fallen dramatically and many growers have not applied a post-pollination insecticide in years. It was common to have peak trap catch exceed 300 adult moths/week in the mid-1990's; now trap catches over 100 are rare. There is a huge amount of variability from farm to farm and this emphasizes the need for growers to know what is happening on their farm; just because the neighbors are spraying for a particular insect does not automatically mean that you should as well.

Spotted fireworm has also become much less common during the last 5-7 years, presumably for the same reason as *Sparganothis*. Those growers planning a post-pollination spray for spotted fireworm would be well advised to consider using either Confirm or Intrepid. Conventional OP insecticides (Lorsban, Diazinon) don't always work well against spotted fireworm because of the dense webbing constructed by larvae, but control with either Confirm or Intrepid has been very impressive.

The timing for control of **root grub** or **cranberry rootworm** infestations is post-bloom, typically by mid-July. Admire is the labeled compound for control of root feeding insects on cranberry, but should absolutely not be used when honeybees are present. Admire cannot be applied by air, but growers typically spot treat with Admire as grub infestations usually are not widespread on cranberry beds. Cranberry rootworm infestations can be controlled with one application of Admire, while root grub infestations may take applications over several consecutive years for complete eradication. This is due to the multi-year life histories of many of the root grubs. Damage from root grubs/cranberry rootworm should be very evident by now: concentric areas of dying vines with margins showing yellowing/reddening vines. Damaged vines typically roll back quite easily because the larval feeding has removed most of the fine roots and root hairs. □

New Publication Offers Advice for Farmers on Avoiding Conflicts with Neighbors and Towns

More than 50 farmers share their advice and experiences on how to avoid conflicts and maintain good relationships with neighbors and municipalities in a new publication developed by the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC).

Rutgers NJAES Cooperative Extension collaborated with the SADC on the publication, along with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, New Jersey Farm Bureau, and NOFA-NJ, as part of a grant project funded by the Northeast Center for Risk Management Education.

“Although New Jersey has one of the strongest right-to-farm laws in the nation, oftentimes the best right-to-farm protection is knowing how to prevent disputes from happening in the first place,” said Agriculture Secretary Charles M. Kuperus, who chairs the SADC. “Experienced farmers are a great source for advice on how to do that. Therefore, we were pleased to compile many of their suggestions in this new publication so that their fellow farmers may benefit from their advice and lessons learned.”

“*Farmer-to-Farmer Advice for Avoiding Conflicts with Neighbors and Towns*” features a wide range of advice collected from growers during interviews last fall. Underlying the suggestions were several common themes – that maintaining good communication, giving appropriate consideration to neighbors and municipalities, and being actively involved in the community are key to fostering good relationships.

Farmers shared their suggestions anonymously. A sampling of the advice included:

- “It’s important to have built a relationship before a controversial issue arises.” (Fruit and vegetable farmer, Burlington County)
- “When I need to work late, I work late. But when I know I can end early or I know someone’s having a picnic or it’s a holiday, I’ll try to end early.” (Grain farmer, Central Jersey)
- “We try to keep our farm clean and presentable on all borders. (Fruit farmer, Gloucester County)
- “Know your rights but be reasonable and keep an open mind to all sides of an issue. Don’t waste your time over trivial matters that are easily handled. A stubborn farmer is looked at negatively.” (Livestock farmer, Monmouth County)
- “Creating a partnership with the town helps when it comes to complaints. The town may actually get the call first and be able to defuse a potential situation

by explaining the issues to the caller.” (Diversified farmer, Somerset County)

- “You’re more than just a farm – you have to act and behave in way that makes others believe you’re an asset to the community and belong in the community.” (Nursery farmer, North Jersey)
- “Just be a good neighbor. That’s all. It’s that simple. Respect your neighbors and they’ll respect you.” (Fruit and vegetable farmer, North Jersey)

As part of the project’s outreach, farmers also discussed their advice and experiences during farmer-panels at several of the winter agricultural meetings, including the State Agricultural Convention, South Jersey Nursery Growers Conference, North Jersey Tree Fruit Meeting, and NOFA-NJ’s Annual Conference. A few farmers also spoke to the current class of the New Jersey Agricultural Leadership Development Program. Later this summer, a panel is planned for the New Jersey Horse Council’s open meeting.

As noted in the publication, the work of building relationships and addressing rural issues falls to more than just farmers. Neighbors and municipalities also must do their part. Collected in the publication, however, are suggestions for what farmers can do – the ideas and risk management strategies described by farmers as working for them.

To request a copy of the new publication, contact the SADC at (609) 984-2504. The publication also can be downloaded from the SADC’s website at: nj.gov/agriculture/sadc/farmersadvice.htm.

For more information, including how to provide feedback on the new publication, visit the SADC’s website above or contact David Kimmel at (609) 984-2504. □

Weekly Weather Summary

Keith Arnesen, Ph.D., Agricultural Meteorologist

Temperatures averaged much above normal, averaging 73 degrees north, 76 degrees central and 77 degrees south. Extremes were 96 degrees at Pomona and Hammonton on the 28th, and 53 degrees at Flemington and Freehold on the 25th. Weekly rainfall averaged 0.21 inches north, 1.14 inches central, and 0.60 inches south. The heaviest 24 hour total reported was 2.91 inches at New Brunswick on the 29th to 30th. Estimated soil moisture, in percent of field capacity, this past week averaged 77 percent north, 63 percent central and 54 percent south. Four inch soil temperatures averaged 70 degrees north, 73 degrees central and 74 degrees south.

Weather Summary for the Week Ending 8 am Monday 6/30/ 8

WEATHER STATIONS	RAINFALL			TEMPERATURE				GDD BASE50		MON %FC
	WEEK	TOTAL	DEP	MX	MN	AVG	DEP	TOT	DEP	
BELVIDERE BRIDGE	.48	15.27	.02	87	56	74.	4	1065	195	67
CANOE BROOK	missing									
CHARLOTTEBURG	.21	16.06	-.52	87	55	72.	4	902	245	73
FLEMINGTON	.12	15.92	.27	89	53	73.	2	1051	181	70
NEWTON	.04	14.88	-.07	87	56	73.	4	1085	348	69
FREEHOLD	.46	12.46	-2.89	91	53	75.	3	1084	121	69
LONG BRANCH	.39	15.42	.04	90	60	75.	4	1019	127	48
NEW BRUNSWICK	3.58	17.15	2.18	91	56	75.	1	1107	83	100
TOMS RIVER	.86	13.88	-1.37	95	55	76.	4	1098	209	60
TRENTON	.40	14.61	.65	92	57	76.	2	1194	121	49
CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE	.07	11.14	-2.41	92	59	77.	5	1162	192	36
DOWNSTOWN	1.56	14.11	.30	94	55	76.	3	1211	120	85
GLASSBORO	.34	14.05	-.92	93	61	77.	4	1320	250	45
HAMMONTON	.42	11.46	-3.11	96	56	77.	4	1273	210	45
POMONA	.61	14.09	.89	96	58	78.	6	1227	252	47
SEABROOK	missing									
SOUTH HARRISON	.14	13.67	-1.18	92	61	77	NA	1300	NA	NA
WES KLINE -- GDD BASE 40 PINEY HOLLOW										
LAST WEEK	205 (Ending 6/23/08)									
THIS WEEK	256 (Ending 6/30/08)									

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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 RCE in your County.

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