As I See It: Cold Injury, Fireblight and Apple Thinning
Win Cowgill, Agricultural Agent

This is has been a tough spring to figure out what to do next. You can see by the title of this article there are a number of issues to deal with for the next few days.

My trees have virtually stood still for the past five days. I had first bloom on apple at Rutgers Snyder Farm on April 11. Its been a long drawn out bloom and of most concern is every tree I have still has open bloom and some pink clusters, mostly on one year wood, but there, none the less. With the warming trend the next few days and mid 80’s forecast for Friday and showers every day we are most concerned with Fireblight. NEWA is forecasting a Caution warning today (Tuesday) and Wednesday Extreme Risk for Thursday, Friday, and High Risk for Saturday.

**Fireblight Sprays**- our choices are Fire Blight are Streptomycin as Agrimycin or Firewall or Oxytetracycline as Fireline or Mycoshield; I will be treating Wednesday.

Also if you are using Apogee for the shoot blight phase, you should have had the first application on several weeks ago. I am making my second 4 ounce application tomorrow. If you are looking to increase set in frost damaged blocks you can increase the rate to 6 ounces.

Apple Scab is still of concern as well with this additional wetting for next three days. Make sure you are covered with protectants as you spray for fireblight, i.e. captan or mancozeb. If using Regulade with the strep do not add captan use a mancoceb product instead.

**Apple Thinning:** Everyone is asking what do we do now? We are at a difficult juncture. The first thing is make sure you know what your crop set is and your crop load. In many cases it may still be difficult to assess that. Some fruitlets are growing slow or not at all. With the warm weather Friday we should move rapidly and be able to see things better.

We are definitely at petal fall in North Jersey on most varieties on the spur fruits, with many clusters at 8mm or larger. Note with most trees having some bloom on one year wood we are not at true PF so be careful of any insecticide including Sevin.

If you know what you have and had great pollination, and fruit is staying, consider still being conservative but get some Sevin XLR on now. Spray in the evening after bee activity has stopped to avoid bee kill. The XLF formulation is better on bees than the WP formulations.

*See As I See It on page 2*
I have always advocated a PF spray, and put Sevin XLR on most of my cultivars last Wednesday night. The downside to that early application is that it takes 6-9 days to see where we are. I would get some thinner on now but be conservative if you have none on. Sevin XLR alone is the conservative approach.

**Thinning Twilight – Phillips FARM**

this Thursday, May 3rd, 6 pm- see last weeks plant and pest for details.

We will go into greater detail then on thinning.

**Cornell MaluSim Carbohydrate Model**

Many of you know we are experimenting with this model with our NJ NEWA weather data to assist us in forecasting thinning response. We ran it today with the assistance of Rebecca Magron, RCE and Jon Clements, UMASS.

It indicates that we should be conservative the next couple of days, as we know warm temperatures and cloudy weather make fruit easy to thin. Three days of cloudy weather will cause apples to thin.

If you have questions e-mail me at cowgill@aesop.rutgers.edu.

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**Fruit IPM**

**Dean Polk, Fruit IPM Agent and David Schmitt, Eugene Rizio and Atanas Atanassov, Ph.D., Program Associates, Tree Fruit IPM**

**Peach**

✔ **Tufted Apple Budmoth (TABM):** A biofix for TABM was set for southern counties on April 23. This insect has really fallen off as a primary pest in recent years, and is now more of a ‘minor’ status. We will have more on treatments next week.

✔ **Oriental Fruit Moth (OFM):** There are striking differences between the populations in well managed peach orchards in southern counties, and populations in apple orchards in the same areas. Populations in northern county peaches are also still high. If 4 alternate middles or 2 complete insecticide sprays have been completed then OFM should not be treated as a primary target, unless trap counts are over 6-8 adults/trap. Under ‘normal’ conditions, trap counts will continue to bottom out over the next two weeks. If you have counts over 6 males per trap, then treatments are still justified. If you have already used Imidan or another OP insecticide, change to an alternative chemistry. In central and northern counties, insecticides are still required according to the following degree day timings. Trap counts have also continued to increase in these counties (27 males/trap in northern counties), and healthy populations are still present in southern county apples (52/trap).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County / Region</th>
<th>1st Spray Date</th>
<th>2nd Spray Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gloucester – Southern</td>
<td>past</td>
<td>5/3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monmouth – Central</td>
<td>past</td>
<td>4/25-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunterdon – Northern</td>
<td>4/23-29</td>
<td>5/3-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**For Planning Purposes:** If your trap counts indicate that the first flight is over, and trap numbers are near “0”, and you plan to employ mating disruption, order your ties or sprayable now. It is still early to place mating disruption dispensers, but you can plan on it in about a 10 days to 2 weeks. Also just prior to the second flight, you may wish to choose the sprayable pheromone formulation in place of hand placed dispensers. Checkmate OFM F (Suterra) should be applied in a solid application @ 1.32-2.93 ozs. acre. Two applications should be made: One prior to the beginning of the next flight (usually late May); and again at mid-flight (usually about mid June). Checkmate can also be used as a low rate frequent application (LRFA). Simply add 0.25-0.8 ozs. in cover sprays at 7-10 day intervals. If spraying alternate middle, double the desired rate/ac. Tend toward the high rate for both solid and alternate middle LRFA application methods if your orchard has high pressure or if frequent rains are forecast.

✔ **Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB):** BMSB are starting to become active, but many are still in their overwintering sites. Because some fruit crops are about 10 days ahead of normal, conditions are ideal for early season injury and BMSB development.

✔ **Plum Curculio (PC):** Adults are active, and some fresh injury was found last week in nectarines in southern counties. Pyrethroids should not be relied upon for PC control if temperatures are forecast to be 80 or above, especially in blocks which have a history of injury. Growers should maintain coverage, especially around orchard borders, with highly effective materials until at least the end of May.

*See IPM on page 3*
Apple

✔ **Codling Moth (CM):** The following chart updates application timings for southern, central and northern counties. Growers should try to time sprays the best way possible and not cut insecticide rates. Growers who had injury in previous seasons should NOT USE Guthion or Imidan or other OP insecticides. Growers with high populations should be transitioning away from the older materials to Delegate, diamides, IGR’s or mating disruption combined with alternative materials. The 2nd complete spray timing for CM generally coincides with timings for TABM. Materials used for TABM should also be very effective for CM.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County Area</th>
<th>Application and Insecticide Type</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DD 50 100 150</td>
<td>Codling Moth Degree Day Timing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Past Past 5/1 5/1 5/23-26 5/6 5/6 5/30-31</td>
<td>Intrepid: 150 + 450 DD Diamides - Altacor, Voliam mixes: (150-200 DD) + 14-21 days later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Past 5/3 5/6 5/6 5/11-12 6/5-6</td>
<td>Rimon: 75-100DD + 14-17 days later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern 5/1 5/5 5/9 5/9 5/25-28 6/12-13</td>
<td>Cyd-X, Carpoovirusine 250 DD + every 7-9 days during brood hatch (later if first spray is an IGR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Standard Insecticides, Diamides – Belt, Tourismo 250 DD + 550 DD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

✔ **Tufted Apple Budmoth (TABM):** See peach section.

✔ **Plum Curculio (PC):** This is a primary insect target in many areas, especially at petal fall. Growers, particularly in northern counties are seeing fruit that is almost ready to be thinned in the same blocks with petals still present. There is no easy answer. There may be some PC injury, but those petals will likely drop as soon as the temperatures warm up again. Since those same warm temperatures will bring out the PC, growers should be prepared to apply a petal fall insecticide as soon as possible. See peach section for other information.

✔ **Aphids (Spirea and Apple Aphids, and Rosy Apple Aphids):** Rosy aphid colonies have been found above thresholds in some southern county orchards, and present in small numbers in northern county plantings. This is largely due to the rapid early season phenology and the subsequent difficulty timing delayed dormant applications. Use an average of 1 colony/tree for a rosy aphid treatment level. Beneficials are present in many blocks. Unfurl curled leaves to see of aphids are either parasitized or have syrphid larvae feeding on them. Parasitized aphids appear brown and swollen and may have exit holes in the abdomen. If predators are present, and most aphids are already dead, then treatments may not be needed. If in northern counties, the protective aphicides have not yet been applied, then they will be due at petal fall. **Try Not to Mix** neonicotinoid insecticides and SI fungicides together at petal fall, especially if flowering weeds are present in the orchard. This mixture can be very toxic to bees.

✔ **Apple Scab and Other Diseases:** The rains this week and last are bringing multiple scab infection periods. A few of the recent showers have been at night. It should be noted that nighttime rains generally release a only small percentage of mature ascospores, so while a large percentage overwintering ascospores have already matured and been released, inoculum for primary scab infections still exists. This is especially of concern in orchards that had scab last year. According to the NEWA models, about 98% of the overwintering ascospores are mature in southern counties, but about 88% are mature in Hunterdon County.

✔ **Fire Blight:** Growers who still have bloom present should plan on Fire Blight protective sprays. The NEWA model predicts High to Extreme Fire Blight conditions for the rest of the week and into the weekend.

**Scouting Calendar**

The following table is intended as an aid for orchard scouting. It should not be used to time pesticide applications. Median dates for pest events and crop phenology are displayed. These dates are compiled from observations made over the past 5-10 years in Gloucester County. Events in northern New Jersey should occur 7-10 days later.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pest Event or Growth Stage</th>
<th>Approximate Date</th>
<th>2012 Observed Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Bloom Peach (Redhaven)</td>
<td>April 16 +/- 7 Days</td>
<td>March 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Full Bloom Apple (Red Delicious)</td>
<td>April 20 +/- 9 Days</td>
<td>April 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petal Fall (Redhaven)</td>
<td>April 21 +/- 9 Days</td>
<td>April 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petal Fall (Red Delicious)</td>
<td>April 27 +/- 13 Days</td>
<td>April 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shuck Split (Redhaven)</td>
<td>April 29 +/- 7 Days</td>
<td>April 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tufted Apple Bud Moth Biofix</td>
<td>May 4 +/- 10 Days</td>
<td>April 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plum Curculio Oviposition Begins</td>
<td>May 5 +/- 16 Days</td>
<td>April 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriental Fruit Moth – 375 DD target</td>
<td>May 10 +/- 10 Days</td>
<td>April 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codling Moth Biofix</td>
<td>May 14 +/- 16 Days</td>
<td>April 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Blueberry on page 4
Blueberry

✔ Aphids: Sampling indicates that 39% of monitored sites were positive for low levels of aphids. Most positive sites show only single aphids as opposed to colonies. Only 2 sites out of 60 were just over the 10% infestation level.

✔ Plum Curculio (PC): Beating tray samples showed that 5% of samples were positive for adults. This is a drop since the previous report most likely due to cooler temperatures. Some egg scars are present on set fruit at a few locations. This year, it looks like both PC and aphids will be primary targets in the first post pollination insecticide.

✔ Cranberry Weevil: About 8% of our beating tray samples show small numbers of weevils. This pest is not an issue at this time.

✔ Leps. and Leafroller Larvae: Beating tray and shoot samples show about one third of samples are positive. Most larvae are green Fruitworm, and most numbers are well below the treatment threshold of 1 larva/100 clusters, or 5% positive shoots. Our highest sample site was at 6% shoot infestation and the tray sample here was at 0.6/100 clusters.

✔ Thrips: No thrips presence was noted in flower and fruit beating tray samples. This has not been an issue this season.

Trap Counts – Southern Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week ending</th>
<th>STLM</th>
<th>TABM-A</th>
<th>CM</th>
<th>AM</th>
<th>OFM-A</th>
<th>DWB</th>
<th>OFM-P</th>
<th>TABM-P</th>
<th>LPTB</th>
<th>PTB</th>
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 Trap Counts – Northern Counties

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<th>Week ending</th>
<th>STLM</th>
<th>CM</th>
<th>TABM-A</th>
<th>AM</th>
<th>DWB</th>
<th>OBLR</th>
<th>OFM-P</th>
<th>TABM-P</th>
<th>LPTB</th>
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Blueberry Insect Trap Captures

Atlantic County

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<tr>
<th>Week Ending</th>
<th>CBFW</th>
<th>RBLR</th>
<th>OBLR</th>
<th>SNLH</th>
<th>Or. Beetle</th>
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<th>BMSB</th>
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Burlington County

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<th>SNLH</th>
<th>Or. Beetle</th>
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<th>BMSB</th>
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<tr>
<td>4/7</td>
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Wine Grape Information for the Region
Mark L. Chien, Viticulture Educator, Penn State Cooperative Extension

Source Penn State Electronic newsletter 4/30/2012

New Grape Grower Workshop – 13 June in Lehigh Valley: New and prospective wine grape vineyard growers and owners can learn all about commercial vineyard planning, design and development at this new grape grower workshop at the Penn State Lehigh Valley campus near Allentown, PA. Topics include grape varieties and rootstocks, grape marketing, vineyard economics, vineyard site selection, design and development through the first year, including training and trellis systems, grapevine nurseries, planting, grape diseases, insects and weeds management. Students will get a comprehensive, if not superficial overview of what is needed to develop a commercial wine vineyard. The meeting is co-sponsored by Penn State Cooperative Extension and the USDA Smart Farming program. Instructors include Fritz Westover, viticulture specialist at Texas A&M Agrilife (Fritz comes from the Allentown area and went to Penn State), Scott Guiser, horticulture educator in Bucks County, and Mark Chien, viticulture extension educator. Tianna DuPont is the regional sustainable agriculture extension educator and meeting coordinator. Full information is available in the meeting brochure http://www.pawinegrape.com/uploads/PDF%20files/New%20Grape%20Grower%20Workshop/June%202012%20New%20Grape%20Grower%20Workshop.pdf or you can go directly to meeting registration. http://www.cvent.com/events/new-grape-grower-workshop-center-valley/event-summary-d44633dd88b24a5ca14515e-4ab337bc1.aspx.

A word to the wise... we have been here before... early start, then cool weather – it’s as if you are in your car pressing on both the gas and the brake at the same time, and soon the foot will come off the brake pedal... we can expect heat to arrive any time and then, POW!... the vineyard punches you in the nose. The grand period of growth will arrive quickly and you should be ready with the necessary labor to sucker, shoot thin and position, lift wires and remove leaves (toss in spraying and weed control). End of May and June can be frantic but if you get the canopy right now, it will make life oh-so much easier for the rest of the season. Try to get as much done now as possible while it’s still cool. Be ready with the spray program. Leaves may look yellowish-green from “spring fever” which is mild nitrogen or potassium deficiency due to cool soils but once the heat arrives they will likely color up again. Scout for mite damage and next up on the bug calendar are grape berry moth and Japanese beetles.

High Tunnel Raspberry and Blackberry Publication Updated and Expanded
Cathy Heidenreich, Cornell University

Northeast growers can capture more of the lucrative local market for fresh berries by growing brambles (raspberries and blackberries) in high tunnels. And the place for them to start is with the updated and expanded edition of High Tunnel Raspberries and Blackberries.

The 2012 edition includes a new section on multiple-bay tunnel production, additional crop budgets, and new information on varieties, pests and diseases. The authors include researches from Cornell University and Michigan State University who have helped pioneer berry production in high tunnels.

Visit http://www.fruit.cornell.edu/berry/production/pdfs/hightunnelsrasp2012.pdf to download the guide. To order print copies ($10 each includes shipping and handling) please contact Maxine Welcome at mw45@cornell.edu or phone 607-255-5439.

Submitted by Jerome L. Frecon, Agricultural Agent.

A question from a grower came in about how to treat a frosted shoot... if the shoot is not dead to the very base, should he wait and hope for a lateral to replace the damaged shoot or remove the primary shoot and force the secondary? I queried Tony Wolf and Kevin Ker, two top frost and winter injury experts and both agreed that, to start, it’s probably best to wait until after frost season ends (in SE PA we have 2 more weeks to endure), and then make a judgment call according to the quality and extent of what is actually growing, i.e. selecting and thinning to the best and most viable shoot. No matter which shoot ends up growing back, it will probably be less fruitful so a yield loss, though highly variable and unpredictable, can be expected. Otherwise, management practices should remain pretty much the same.

Viticulture webinar: Alice Wise and Libby Tarleton, Cornell Viticulture Extension on Long Island, are offering a viticulture webinar on Thursday, 10 May from 3:00 to 4:30 PM with two excellent speakers and topics. First is Dr. Tony Wolf from Virginia Tech presenting Intrarow cover crops and other practices to favorably alter vine growth and canopy architecture, followed by Dr. Ian Merwin from Cornell discussing Vineyard floor management and soil health. Anyone with a computer and (relatively fast) internet connection can receive this valuable information! Pre-registration is required to participate – contact Libby at lt68@cornell.edu or call 631-727-3595. Web: http://pawinegrape.com.

Submitted by Jerome L. Frecon, Agricultural Agent.
Farm mapping is a familiar thing for growers in New Jersey. Field maps, pesticide storage maps and customer maps are regular tasks, but mapping for food safety? Mapping your farm with food safety in mind allows you to manage the physical characteristics of the farm to minimize microbial contamination hazards.

Hand drawn maps are acceptable for an audit, but if you want a computer generated map, or an aerial image, there are several free resources that you can use. The easiest to use is the My Maps section of Google Maps, located at: www.maps.google.com. Just plug in your farm’s physical address, zoom in so the map shows the entire farm and print. You can then hand draw in the details required for the food safety maps or trace the prominent features of the farm onto a clean sheet of paper and add in the required components. Another good resource is the USDA Web Soil Survey at http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm. Your local FSA also has aerial photo maps that could be used. Simple computer drawn maps, like the ones shown in the Henderson Farm Plan, can be created using standard computer software such as Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, or Publisher.

What map(s) will you need for your food safety plan?

✔ Field map
The field map will most likely be much like what you currently use for planning crop rotations and schedules. Field maps need to include, where applicable:
- Fields uniquely numbered with crops indicated
- Farm roadways
- Indoor growing facilities such as high tunnels, greenhouses, etc.
- Farm buildings including barns, and other structures
- Packing house location
- Water systems, you have the option of including this in your field map or in a separate map. Whichever is easier for you to do. (Water systems will be discussed in a separate area below)
- Animal waste storage areas, including compost
- Animal housing and grazing areas

✔ Packing House Layout

The packing house layout should have enough detail so the auditor can see the flow of product into, through and out of the packing house. The packing house layout needs to include, where applicable:
- Washing and grading line
- Packing line
- Receiving area
- Office
- Crate/box etc. storage area
- Cold room
- Loading area
- Restrooms
- Wash stations
- Doorways
- Rodent traps
- Break room
- Employee belongings storage

✔ Water System Map
Sources of water and methods of protecting that water from contamination
- Permanent fixtures such as wells, gates, reservoirs, valves, returns, under ground main and any above ground water transportation systems
- Flow of water system including holding reservoirs and water capturing for re-use

These maps should have enough detail so the auditor can easily use them to locate its components. The maps should be kept accurate by reviewing them annually and make changes as needed. Once the maps are created not only will they be one more piece of the food safety certification package, but they will also help you consider safer and more efficient methods of production.

Next week: General Questions: Implementation of a Food Safety Program and Worker Health and Hygiene.
2nd North Jersey Fruit Meeting
Thursday, May 3, 2012
6:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Phillips Farms
91 Crabapple Hill Road
Milford, NJ 08867 (Hunterdon County)

Meeting will be held rain, snow or shine

6:00 p.m. Orchard Tour - Leaves promptly at 6:00 p.m.
Tour of tree fruit, small fruit and new packing house loading dock,
cold storage, Marc Phillips – Owner Phillips Farms and Win Cowgill, Area Fruit Agent
Featured will be 30 plus acres of tree fruit- peaches (15A) apples (12), Asian pears (2), plums (1.5A), cherries (2) European pears (1) and 15 acres of small fruit-including brambles (8A), Blueberries (4A), strawberries (5A), currents and gooseberries. Phillips Farms also grows over 200 acres of vegetables, some double cropped.

Disease Development and Control in Multi-Crop Settings - this talk will be particularly adapted to all producers with multiple crops and multiple marketing venues, Dr. Norm Lalancette, Specialist in Tree Fruit Pomology

Update on Herbicide Options for Tree Fruit - Dr. Brad Majek, Specialist in Weed Science

7:30 p.m. return inside
Chemical Thinning Update in a difficult season - Win Cowgill, Area Fruit Agent

Update on Pesticide Regulations for 2012 - Peter Nitzsche, Agricultural Agent of Morris County

Insect Control Update – Dean Polk, Statewide IPM Agent

BMSB biology and management on diversified farms – Dr. Ann Neilson - RCE Extension, Specialist in Entomology

Crop Insurance Update and Freeze injury – Dave Lee, RCE of Salem County

NJ and PA- PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION CREDITS. Awarded at the end of the program

Registration Donation: $10.00 – checks made payable to Rutgers, the State University. Please RSVP to register with Diana Boesch at 908-788-1339 or boesch@njaes.rutgers.edu. Program questions contact Win Cowgill.

Directions from North Jersey: Phillips Farm, 91 Crabapple Hill Road, Milford, NJ 08867. From I-78 West, take Exit 11 for Pattenburg/W.Portal. Keep left at the fork in the ramp. Merge onto NJ-173 W. Immediately enter next roundabout and take 2nd exit onto CR-614 West/Pattenburg Rd. (basically cross over route 78). CR-614/Pattenburg Rd. becomes CR-614 West. Stay on CR-614 West for 2.5 miles until a 4-way stop. Continue for 2 more miles and make a sharp left turn at the Little York Inn, staying on CR-614 West. Continue on CR-614 West for another 2.5 miles. CR-614 turns into Spring Mills Rd. At the stop sign, turn right onto CR-519 North/Milford Warren Glen Rd. Make your first left onto Church Rd. and continue for 2.5 miles. Turn left on Crabapple Hill Road, Phillips Farms farm driveway will be on the right-travel up the hill to the buildings.

Calendar of Events


April 28, 2012  10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Ag Field Day at Rutgers Day – George H. Cook Campus, New Brunswick, NJ. For more information: http://agfieldday.rutgers.edu.

May 3, 2012 - 2nd North Jersey Twilight Fruit and Thinning Meeting - see announcement, left.

May 8, 2012  1:00 pm, Twilight Meeting for Fruit Growers, Lancaster/York Counties – Lancaster/York Co. Contact Tim Elkner, 717-394-6851, fax: 717-394-3962, tee2@psu.edu.

May 9, 2012  3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Twilight Meeting for Fruit Growers, Adams County- McCleaf’s Orchard, 104 W. Guernsey Rd. Biglerville, PA. Contact Tara Baugher 717-334-6271, tab36@psu.edu.

May 24, 2012  Twilight Meeting for Fruit Growers, Southeastern, PA., Contact Rick Kaufmann, 610-378-1327, fax: 610-378-1327, rsk5@psu.edu.

PLANT & PEST ADVISORY

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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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