

The Blueberry Bulletin

A Weekly Update to Growers

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- ❖ Visit the Blueberry Bulletin webpage at njaes.rutgers.edu/blueberry-bulletin
- ❖ The 2022 Commercial Blueberry Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey is available on njaes.rutgers.edu

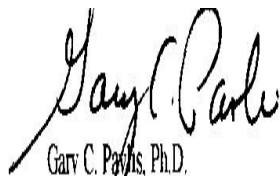
BLUEBERRY CULTURE

Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, PhD.
Atlantic County Agricultural Agent

Grower visits this week throughout Hammonton did not reveal any major problems. I saw my first blue 'Duke' on June 6th but I still think that harvest is at least a week away, maybe 10 days. Overall crop size looks good but not extremely large. We experienced a mild winter in NJ and that usually translates into a big crop however I do not feel that is the case this year. The 'Bluecrop' does look a little heavier than the 'Duke' so the total may be larger than I think. As usual at this time of the year, I am seeing plants throughout NJ with new growth which is very light green and or reddish green. This is a nutrient deficiency, usually nitrogen, but it is normal. The plants are rapidly growing and doing so faster than the nutrients can be taken up. This will clear up in a few weeks as growth slows down.

Last applications of N-P-K should be going on over the next two or three weeks. After July 1 I do not recommend applying nitrogen. Our research at Rutgers shows that late applications of nitrogen increase stem blight, increase aphid numbers, and decrease winter bud hardiness.

Lastly, this is an excellent time to scout your fields for any problems that may exist. After harvest begins most growers are too busy to look for problems so now is the time to ID problems and address them. If you need any help do not hesitate to call me.



Gary C. Pavlis, Ph.D.
Atlantic County Agricultural Agent

PEST MANAGEMENT

Blueberry Insects

Dr. Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Extension Specialist in Blueberry Entomology, Rutgers University

Mr. Dean Polk, IPM Agent – Fruit

Ms. Carrie Mansue Denson, IPM Program Associate – Fruit

Leps (Lepidoptera larva – green fruitworms, leafrollers, spanworms, spongy (= gypsy moth) and Plum Curculio (PC): During this past week’s scouting, Lep and PC averages have decreased. Now that the bees are out, and post-bloom sprays have been done our attention is towards aphids followed by spotted wing drosophila. Please see below:

Aphids: In this week’s scouting, aphid infestation was on average 10.75% of infested terminals, with a high of 64%. At these levels, aphids should be targeted in the pest management program. If aphids have not yet been treated, targeting both aphids and SWD will be needed – see SWD below.

	% Shoot Infestation Leafroller		% Terminals Infested Aphids	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
5/28	0.16	2	8.3	40
6/2	0.048	4	10.75	64

	Leafroller/Tray		Gypsy Moth/Tray		Plum Curculio		Thrips	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
4/30	0.03	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0
5/7	0.05	0.4	0.44	5	0.06	0.3	0	0
5/13	0.05	0.2	0.05	0.4	0.04	0.4	0	0
5/21	0.009	0.1	0.01	0.5	3.6	0.4	0	0
5/28	0.01	0.2	0.01	0.3	0.04	0.5	0	0
6/2	0.001	0.1	0.004	0.2	0	0	0	0

	% Leafroller fruit Injury		% PC fruit Injury	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
5/21	0.03	0.2	0.34	3.2
5/28	0.02	0.7	0.39	2.5
6/2	0.001	0.2	0.022	0.9

Cranberry Fruitworm (CBFW) and Cherry Fruitworm (CFW) Traps: Trap counts in both Atlantic County (AC) and Burlington County (BC) have been catching both CBFW and CFW; however, numbers have been decreasing. CFW trap counts average 5.12 moths per trap, with a high of 15 moths/trap for AC and averaging 7.5 moths per trap, with a high of 17 moths/trap for BC. CBFW trap counts have decreased; in AC, average CBFW is at 0.70 moths per trap, with a high of 7 moths/trap, and in BC averaging 0 moths per trap, with a high of 0 moths/trap.

	CBFW AC		CBFW BC		CFW AC		CFW BC	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
4/8	0	0	0	0	0.1	1	0.25	1
4/14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4/20	0	0	0	0	0.2	1	0	0
4/29	0.1	1	0	0	0.9	3	0.25	1
5/7	0	0	0	0	7.1	15	4.5	15
5/13	0.1	1	0	0	9.1	22	10.25	17
5/21	2.3	14	0	0	19.1	40	14.5	20
5/28	2.6	24	3.25	13	12.1	27	13.5	35
6/2	0.70	7	0	0	5.12	15	7.5	17

SWD Traps: First catch of SWD for Burlington County happened this past week. Therefore, SWD can be assumed to be present in all major blueberry growing areas. Duke plants are starting to show blue color, thus your next spray, and following sprays should target SWD.

	SWD AC		SWD BC	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
5/25	6	9	0	0
6/2	4.6	6	2	3