

# The Blueberry Bulletin

## A Weekly Update to Growers

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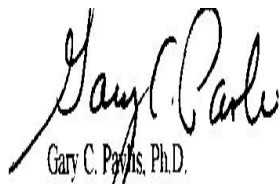
- ❖ Visit the Blueberry Bulletin webpage at [njaes.rutgers.edu/blueberry-bulletin](https://njaes.rutgers.edu/blueberry-bulletin)
- ❖ The 2022 Commercial Blueberry Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey is available on [njaes.rutgers.edu](https://njaes.rutgers.edu)

## BLUEBERRY CULTURE

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

The first round of “Duke” picking is largely over and the fruit quality is excellent though it appears the overall crop size is decreased due to the multiple frost episodes. “Bluecrop” picking will probably begin this weekend and was much less affected by the frosts. Interesting to note that “Draper”, which is expected to come in with “Bluecrop” is later this year. My research on Draper and its “Green fruit drop problem” may be remedied by just increasing the pH into the mid 5’s although applications of foliar calcium do increase fruit firmness which is always beneficial.

No leaves: Grower visits have revealed fields with plants that have canes with fruit but no leaves. This is not Scorch. The lack of leaves usually points to a root problem. It could be grubs it could be root rot. In not irrigated fields, the lack of leaves may be due to a lack of water. It has been very dry. The fruit will probably not ripen and the plant may not survive. In irrigated fields, grubs are still a problem. Control of grubs is highly recommended. Plants that have been damaged by grubs will pull out of the ground easily. Lastly, toxic levels of Boron can also result in no leaves. Do not apply Boron unless analysis indicates a deficiency.



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**

**SWD Traps:** Numbers for SWD have been increasing more and more in Atlantic County (AC) and Burlington County (BC). At this point, SWD is the main target of insecticide sprays. This is the third week in a row SWD is being found in both Atlantic and Burlington Counties. Make sure you are on a weekly insecticide schedule from this point forward. Growers should rotate insecticides with different modes of action to avoid development of resistant populations.

	SWD AC		SWD BC	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
5/25	6	9	0	0
6/2	4.6	6	2	3
6/10	2	3	4.3	8
6/18	33.47	76	12	71

**Aphids:** In this week's scouting, average aphid-infested terminals was 6.56%, with a high of 66%. Average populations have decreased some since last week, mostly due to insecticide treatments being applied. If you have already treated and your aphid populations are very low, or well less than 10% of terminals infested, then you can move on and concentrate on SWD treatments. If you still have aphid populations then you will need to treat for both pests – aphids and SWD.

	% Shoot Infestation Leafroller		% Terminals Infested with aphids	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
5/28	0.16	2	8.3	40
6/2	0.048	4	10.75	64
6/10	0	0	6.58	72
6/18	0.04	6	6.56	66

**Scales:** Scales have started to show up on berries. Average infested berries is 0.05, with a high of 2.8. Traps will be set towards the end of the picking season to locate 2<sup>nd</sup> generation for the timing of treatment.

**Blueberry Maggot (BBM), Oriental Beetle (OB) and Sharp-nosed Leafhopper (SNLH) traps:** Traps have been set in Atlantic and Burlington County. Traps for BBM and SNLH have been 0 for both counties. OB trap counts are minimal, but numbers will increase as the weeks progress.

	BBM AC		BBM BC		OB AC		OB BC	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
6/18	0	0	0	0	195	340	173	675

	SNLH AC		SNLH BC	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
6/18	0	0	0	0

**Leps (Lepidoptera larva – green fruitworms, leafrollers, spanworms, spongy (= gypsy moth)) and Plum Curculio (PC):** During this past week scouting, Lep and PC averages have decreased.

	% 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
6/10	0.001	0.2	0.004	0.3
6/18	0.02	0.2	0	0

**Cranberry Fruitworm (CBFW) and Cherry Fruitworm (CFW) Traps:** CFW traps average at 1.2 adults per trap, with a high of 4 adults/trap for AC and averaging 2 adults per trap, with a high of 6 adults/trap for BC. CBFW traps in AC average 0.2 adults per trap, with a high of 1 adult/trap, and averaging of 1.5 adults per trap, with a high of 6 adults/trap, for BC.

	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
6/10	1	3	1	2	2.3	8	2.33	4
6/18	0.2	1	1.5	6	1.2	4	2	6