



## *The BLUEBERRY BULLETIN*

*A Weekly Update to Growers*

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### **INSECTS**

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

**Mr. Dean Polk, IPM Agent – Fruit**

**Ms. Carrie Denson, IPM Program Associate – Fruit**

**Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD):** Adult trap captures have increased since last week, and will continue to increase throughout the season. Weekly applications are required on both Duke and Bluecrop in order to prevent the occurrence of infested fruit. No infested harvested fruit have been found on any commercial farms as of this date.

**Aphids:** Aphid populations are about the same level as seen the previous week. At this point in time we really suggest concentrating on SWD control. The neonicotinoids used for aphid control do not work for SWD. Lannate is one material that controls SWD and can control aphids with thorough coverage in high volume applications. Some growers can still use ground rigs for spraying, most of you are using aerial applications. While aerial applications are fine for most purposes, we have never found good aphid control using aerial applications of Lannate.

**Blueberry Maggot (BBM):** While trap captures are very low, the blueberry maggot fly is emerging, mating and potentially laying eggs on fruit. Since there is so much overlap between the controls used for SWD and BBM, growers are advised to concentrate on SWD control, but still be aware that BBM is around.

**Oriental Beetle (OB):** Oriental beetle adult trap captures jumped significantly over the past week. This shows that adult emergence and egg laying are well underway. In Atlantic County trap captures went from an average of 5 per trap to 730 per trap. In one case the adult counts were over 4,000 per trap! From past experience, we have seen that when the peak flight reaches about 600 males per trap in one week, then damaging levels of grubs are often seen the following year. Growers have 2 choices for treatment.

Choice 1)

You can use imidacloprid/Admire type products @ 7-14 oz/A with a 7 day PHI. This material will control early stage larvae, so it **MUST BE APPLIED BEFORE** mid July in order to be effective. The material must be pushed below the soil surface where grub larvae are located and out of direct sunlight. Therefore the application needs to be followed with .5 to 1" of irrigation or precipitation within 24 hr., or be chemigated in.

Choice 2)

Grin and bear it this year, and order the mating disruption dispensers for next year. Mating disruption works, but Must Be Applied Prior to Adult Emergence. Therefore it is too late to use mating disruption for this year.

We understand the concern that some growers have about the use of imidacloprid, pollination and bees. However, OB grubs kill blueberry bushes! If you have another choice to control this insect then it must be used in order to prevent the root feeding, decline and death associated with OB infestations.

### Blueberry Trap Counts

#### Atlantic County

Week Ending	Cranberry Fruitworm	Plum Curculio	Oriental Beetle	Spotted Wing Drosophila ♂
5/6				
5/13	.083			
5/20	.28	2.4		
5/27	.56	2.8		
6/3	0.24	0.33		0.74
6/10	.33	0	4.9	0.79
6/17	.50	0	730	1.65

#### Burlington County

Week Ending	Cranberry Fruitworm	Plum Curculio	Oriental Beetle	Spotted Wing Drosophila ♂
5/6				
5/13	.33			
5/20	.14	7		
5/27	.43	12		
6/3	0.857	2		2.46
6/10	0.18	0	1.08	1.83
6/17	0.9	1.0	269	3.08