



The BLUEBERRY BULLETIN

A Weekly Update to Growers

Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, County Agricultural Agent

6260 Old Harding Highway, NJ 08330

Phone: 609/625-0056 Fax: 609/625-3646 Email: pavlis@njaes.rutgers.edu

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CULTURE

Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, Ph. D.

Atlantic County Agricultural Agent

Visits to numerous blueberry farms in Atlantic and Burlington Counties has revealed many plantings with apparent root damage. The results of this damage has resulted in decreased crop load, decreased fruit size, apparent phytotoxic symptoms on the leaves, and decreased cane growth. The source of this damage is under investigation however it would be prudent for growers to do what they can to insure that next year's crop is not compromised and that the plants survive. The best remedy for damaged roots is an

application of Potassium and Phosphorus. On mature plants I would recommend 20 to 30 pounds actual P and K per acre. As growers know, I do not recommend Nitrogen applications after July 4th. This results in late growth and eventual winter damage among other things. A low application of Nitrogen is not out of the question however, possibly 5 pounds per acre. I believe this N,P,K application will alleviate the problems to some degree.

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 continued to increase. Growers are advised to maintain treatments on anything that is still picking for ANY market. We can easily find live larvae in unsprayed fruit at this time. Salt floatation tests done on fruit from commercially treated fields has remained at "0" for the entire season.

Blueberry Maggot (BBM): Trap captures are very low, but have come up slightly in Atlantic County. This is likely due in part to the decreased use of insecticide, now that 'Duke'

and in some cases 'Bluecrop' are done. Any late variety fields still need to have sprays maintained, since these higher populations can still be attracted to those fields. All insecticides used for SWD will work for BBM, except Delegate if the BBM pressure is high.

Oriental Beetle (OB): While trap captures of adults remain high, the flight has peaked. The window for effective use of Admire Pro is now closed, since many of the grubs are 3rd instar and too large to be killed by the insecticide. While late applications will kill some larvae, it

may not be economically effective at this stage of larval development.

crawlers will be present. This should occur over the next several weeks.

Putnam Scale: First generation scale crawlers are no longer present. We are maintaining monitoring tapes in several locations in order to determine when second generation

Sharpnosed Leafhopper (SNLH): Adult trap captures have continued to decrease in Burlington County. Activity has increased slightly in Atlantic County, but in part driven by one location. We are still between generations, and no treatments are needed at this point.

Blueberry Trap Counts

Atlantic County

Week Ending	Cranberry Fruitworm	Plum Curculio	Oriental Beetle	Spotted Wing Drosophila ♂	SNLH	BBM
5/6						
5/13	0.083					
5/20	0.28	2.4				
5/27	0.56	2.8				
6/3	0.24	0.33		0.74		
6/10	0.33	0	4.9	0.79		
6/17	0.50	0	730	1.65	0	0.1
6/24	0.04	0	2672	1.2	0.29	0.1
7/1	0.04	0	3767	1.84	0.13	0.3
7/8	0.0	0.33	3341	5.02	0.09	0.1
7/15	0.0	0.0	2093	7.35	0.77	0.1

Burlington County

Week Ending	Cranberry Fruitworm	Plum Curculio	Oriental Beetle	Spotted Wing Drosophila ♂	SNLH	BBM
5/6						
5/13	0.33					
5/20	0.14	7				
5/27	0.43	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		0
6/24	0.67	-	5460	3.04	1.59	0
7/1	0.36	0	2629	4.64	1.03	0
7/8	0.17	0	4224	5.53	1.07	0.23
7/15	0.0	0.0	3497	7.73	0.19	0.1

DR. GARY C. PAVLIS
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT
RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
OF ATLANTIC COUNTY
6260 OLD HARDING HIGHWAY
MAYS LANDING, NJ 08330

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If you have any comments about this newsletter, please make them in the space below and mail to:
Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, County Agricultural Agent
Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Atlantic County
6260 Old Harding Highway, Mays Landing, NJ 08330

I would like to see an article on the following subjects: _____

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Rutgers Cooperative Extension of Atlantic County
6260 Old Harding Highway, Mays Landing, NJ 08330
Phone: 609/625-0056, Fax: 609/625-3646
E-mail: pavlis@njaes.rutgers.edu
<http://www.njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/blueberrybulletin>
Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, County Agricultural Agent
Editor - The Blueberry Bulletin
Sharon Ponzetti, Secretary
E-mail: ponzetti@njaes.rutgers.edu