

The Blueberry Bulletin

A Weekly Update to Growers

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2018 Commercial Blueberry Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey
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BLUEBERRY INSECT

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SPECIAL SPOTTED WING DROSOPHILA ALERT: Growers should be on an SWD program. Adults are laying eggs and internal larvae have already been seen in non-treated plantings and reported by growers in northern counties.

The following data are from monitor 215 sites from Atlantic and Burlington Counties.

Plum Curculio (PC): Numbers of PC infested fruit decreased over the past week, some due to fruit drop. The average count was 0.005 per bush, with a high of 0.5 infested fruit per bush. Trap counts during this week have decreased as well, with none found in the traps in either county. Some residual infestations are present in pockets of plants around wooded edges. Both Duke and Bluecrop can be found with up to .5% of injured fruit with live larvae. Make sure you know what condition your fruit is in before picking, especially around the woods.

Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD): This past week was our first capture of a male SWD. First male fly captures were on June 20th in both Atlantic and Burlington Counties. We continue to get more positive trap sites since first capture. Therefore all susceptible fruit should be on an SWD program. **This means all Duke, Draper, and Bluecrop and anything else with color.**



Spotted wing drosophila male on red sticky trap.
Photo – Carrie Denson

Blueberry Maggot (BBM): No BBM has been captured in either Atlantic or Burlington Counties.

Leps: Total numbers of 'worm' larvae have decreased on lower shoots as well as injury to infested fruit. Average percentage of lower infested shoot was 0.205 per infested shoot with a high of 18% of Leps on shoots. Fruit injury is very low and averaged 0.018 per bush with a high of 0.6 infested fruit per bush. Fall webworm is present in isolated areas, especially on end bushes and near the woods. Webs will often involve the entire terminal or more than 1 terminal. Most materials used for SWD will control webworm, or if you simply cut out the affected parts of the plant and burn.

Aphids: Overall aphid populations increased slightly over the past week, with 5.9% shoots infested, and a high of 48%. Colony sizes on average are 6 to 10 aphids per shoot. At this time, we are moving into an SWD program, so the only way to get aphid populations down at this point will be to use two separate applications, one for SWD and the other for aphids.



Fall webworm infestations.
Photo - McKenna Moore

Oriental Beetle (OB): As expected, OB adult trap captures have increased as adults continue to emerge. When you consider that Admire has a 7 day PHI and the fact that all treatments must be applied prior to mid July to be effective, then the window for effective applications is fast closing. Many growers who had high populations last year, still have not treated this year. This is why we have continued to suggest mating disruption as a viable alternative. However the window for that application is closed, since adults are now in their third week of emergence.

Cranberry Fruitworm (CBFW): CBFW adult are still being found in traps, but the timing for treatments is well over. Some infested fruit is present, but mostly in untreated fields. Our average count was 0.012 infested fruit per bush, with a high of 1. As for trap counts, Atlantic County trap count high was 1 per trap, Burlington County high was 2 per trap.

Sharpnosed Leafhopper (SNLH): SNLH nymphs are starting to mature, and adults are starting to be found in yellow sticky traps. This is the first of two generations we will see. Most of the treatments applied for SWD will also control SNLH, so we usually don't worry too much about the 1st generation. SNLH is the vector for blueberry stunt disease, but since the adults that have wings are much more motile, that is the stage we target for control. We captured only two adults in one trap in Atlantic County.

Summary of insect counts seen during the week of June 10th – 16th

	Leafroller % inj. shoots	Aphids % inf. shoots	CBFE % inf. fruit	Leafroller % shoots inf.	Plum Curculio % Inj Frt
Average	0.205	5.89	0.018	0.012	0.010
High	18	48	0.6	1	0.5

Blueberry Trap Captures – Atlantic County

Week Ending	PC	CBFW	OB	SWD	BBM	SNLH
5/26	0.43	0.0				
6/2	0.43	0.0				
6/9	0.09	0.43	5.4			
6/16	0	0.015	31.75	0.02	0	0.072

Blueberry Trap Captures – Burlington County

Week Ending	PC	CBFW	OB	SWD	BBM	SNLH
5/26	1.67	0.18				
6/2	0.67	0.16				
6/9	0.0	0.1	0.6			
6/16	0	0.5	38.52	0.15	0	0

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