

The Blueberry Bulletin

A Weekly Update to Growers

September 3, 2020

Vol. 36, No. 24

- ❖ Visit the Blueberry Bulletin webpage at njaes.rutgers.edu/blueberry-bulletin
- ❖ The 2020 Commercial Blueberry Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey is available on njaes.rutgers.edu

BLUEBERRY INSECT

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

Mr. Dean Polk, IPM Agent – Fruit

Ms. Carrie Denson, IPM Program Associate – Fruit

Sharpnosed Leafhopper (SNLH): We are still watching for a significant increase in the adult trap catch, which would indicate the second generation flight. While we saw a slight increase this past week, it is still not enough and too early to think about second generation SNLH treatments.

Life cycle – SNLH feeds and reproduces on blueberry, huckleberry, cranberry, and other related plants. SNLH feeding causes little direct damage but it transmits the phytoplasma that causes stunt disease in blueberries. They are small brown insects with a pointed head (Figure 1). SNLH picks up the disease while feeding on infested bushes and carries it to other plants in subsequent feedings. Usually only adults will carry the disease from plant to plant, since nymphs are wingless and cannot fly (Figure 1). This insect completes two generations in New Jersey. Adults are abundant in the woods, where many alternative hosts are present, and may move to commercial blueberry fields in the spring. Eggs overwinter inside fallen leaves and hatch in mid-May. Nymphs complete five instars. Nymphs from the first generation reach adult stage in mid-June, while nymphs from the second generation reach adulthood in early August. Adults move back to the woods in the

fall. Monitoring these generations is critical for timing of control strategies.

Monitoring and control – Adults are monitored using yellow sticky traps. First generation SNLH is often controlled with sprays targeted for plum curculio, aphids, and cranberry fruitworm. Treatment decisions for the second generation should be based on individual population levels, as well as any history of stunt disease on your farm.

Because adults disperse from woods, monitoring should be intensified in, and sprays should be directed to, the perimeter of fields to control migrants carrying the disease. Insecticides are usually applied just prior to peak flight, which is near the end of August to early September (around this time of year but see above information). If needed, we



Figure 1. Adult at top and nymph with wing pads but no fully developed wings.

recommend use of Assail, Actara, imidacloprid (e.g. Admire Pro), Lannate, or Malathion. It is also important to remove all plants that show symptoms of stunt disease. Removal of bushes should be done after insecticide treatment to avoid movement of leafhoppers from infested

to healthy plants, thereby facilitating spread of the disease.

Blueberry Trap Counts

Week Ending	CBFW-AC		CBFW-BC		SWD-AC		SWD-BC		OB-BC		OB-AC	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
5/11	0.1	1	0	0								
5/18	0	0	0	0								
5/25	0.1	1	0.25	1	0.8	7	0	0				
5/30	0	0	0.25	1	.75	5	.55	1				
6/6	5.5	34	0.75	3	2	8	2.1	5				
6/13	5.6	22	3.5	8	4	14	7.7	20	3.2	11	18	340
6/19	7.2	48	6.5	18	4.64	30	4.9	16	71.75	675	21.4	68
6/27	0	0	3.5	8	2.8	12	4.3	25	1834	13750	462	2025
7/4	0.22	1	1	3	4.17	16	11.3	46	2421	8775	976	5062
7/11	0.11	1	0.25	1	5.8	27	6.6	22	1093	5000	1997	6075
7/18	0.11	1	0.5	2	5.3	19	4.6	14	769	5000	1575	6750
7/25	0.11	1	0.25	1	12.2	41	5.5	20	443	3500	920	4050
8/1	0	0	0	0	8	42	11	37	179	2025	520	4025
8/8	.	.	.	.	8.9	62	5.6	23	31.5	340	231	4025
8/15	.	.	.	.	13	46	3.5	17	2.5	15	25	675
8/22	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.375	4	8.7	58
8/29	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Week Ending	SNLH – AC		SNLH-BC		BBM-AC		BBM-BC		Scale-AC		Scale-BC	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
6/27	0.14	3	0.8	4	0	0	0	0				
7/4	0.08	1	0.8	5	0.009	1	0	0				
7/11	0.12	1	1.82	6	0	0	0	0				
7/18	0.11	2	1.16	5	0	0	0	0				
7/25	0	0	0	0	0.02	1	0	0				
8/1	0.04	1	0.3	2	0	0	0	0				
8/8	0.152	3	0.14	2	0.03	2	0	0	9.25	57	0.5	1
8/15	0.37	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	27	89	9	18
8/22	0.08	2	0.07	1	.	.	.	.	20.6	73	7	14
8/29	0.2	3	0.21	3	.	.	.	.	18.3	74	6.5	13

Key: PC=plum curculio, Scale=Putnam scale, CBFW=cranberry fruitworm, SWD=spotted wing drosophila, OB=oriental beetle, SNLH-sharpnosed leafhopper, BBM=blueberry maggot, BC=Burlington County, AC=Atlantic County

NJDEP LICENSING & REGISTRATIONS

2020 PESTICIDE LICENSE RENEWAL INFORMATION

August 18, 2020

PESTICIDE LICENSE RENEWALS

-Annual renewal invoices ran on Monday August 3, 2020

-Invoice numbers are available online NOW!

-Paper invoices will be mailed in late August

-The most efficient way to process your renewal invoice is to pay online

PESTICIDE CERTIFICATION EXAMS

All exams were cancelled as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Department recognizes the adverse impact this has had on our customers and continues to work with Rutgers University to establish remotely proctored and computer-based exam alternatives. Please visit our website at www.pcpnj.org for the most up-to-date exam information.

PESTICIDE RENEWAL - GENERAL INFORMATION

Department staff are currently working remotely with limited access to office buildings. Therefore, expect significant delays with the processing of paper checks and purchase orders. However, all pesticide license renewal invoice numbers are available online and the most efficient processing of licenses is through online payment (see details below). Also note that after paying online, please discard the paper invoice being mailed between the end of August and mid- September.

Q: How to find your invoice number:

1. Click on this link <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/enforcement/pcp/bpo-pesticide-links.htm>
2. Next, click on the link labeled "Look Up Your License Invoice Number-Individuals" or "Look up Your Invoice Number - Businesses"
3. Enter License number (capitalize any letters at the end of your license number)
4. Click OK

Q: How to make a payment online:

1. Click on this link <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/enforcement/pcp/bpo-pesticide-links.htm>
2. Next, click on the link labeled "Pay for Your License Online"
3. Enter Invoice number (from paper invoice or our website)
4. Enter License number (capitalize any letters at the end of your license number)
5. Click continue and follow subsequent prompts

Q: I cannot locate my invoice for the license that expires 10/31/2021 online?

It is likely that your license is not currently eligible for renewal due to insufficient recertification credits or failure to pay for a renewal for two or more licensing years.

- If you have not paid for the previous two years licenses that expire on 10/31/2019 and 10/31/2020, you can still be eligible to renew by paying both old invoices on or before 10/31/2020. Otherwise your license becomes inactive and you can only recertify via examination.
- To determine if you have not earned the required amount of recertification credits, review your Course History information by following the directions in the section below.

PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION CREDITS

Recertification amounts that appear on the paper renewal invoices were recorded as of July 1, 2020 so there may be a discrepancy between paper invoice and your online credit history. Course rosters are uploaded daily and the online credit values for are live linked to our webpage.

Q: How do I locate my credit history online?

1. Click on this link <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/enforcement/pcp/bpo-pesticide-links.htm>
2. Scroll down to "Credits and Courses"
3. Click on link labeled "Check Your Credit & Course History-Commercial Applicator" or "Check Your Credit and Course History-Private Applicator"
4. Enter Requested information (license number, birthdate, and last four of Social Security number)
5. Click OK

Q: What if there are credits or courses missing from my credit history online?

If the course was completed within the past 30 days, the roster likely has not yet been uploaded. Course attendance rosters are uploaded within four weeks from the date of the course. If the course was completed more than four weeks prior, contact the course provider to ensure that the attendance roster was submitted timely. If the course was not completed in the current licensing year, please email pestcertcourses@dep.nj.gov and include your license number, the course number and course date for review.

ONLINE COURSES FOR PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION CREDITS

The Department recognizes that COVID-related restrictions and limitations have made it difficult for licensed Commercial and Private applicators to obtain the required credits for those licensees whose five-year recertification cycle ends 10/31/2020. To address this concern, the Department has made an exception for those affected individuals and relaxed the 25% maximum total online credits allowed. Licensees with one or more certifications expiring on 10/31/2020 may earn up to 100% total required credits through online courses. Please note that this exception only applies to individuals whose five-year recertification cycle expires on 10/31/2020. The Department will revisit this policy relaxation further based on continued social distancing and other COVID-related restrictions.

Q: Am I eligible to take the remainder of my continuing education credits online?

Click the link below to see if your name appears on the eligibility list.

https://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner/RUN_REPORT.aspx?RN=Applicators+Eligible+for+100+Percent+Online+Credits+thru+2020

PRIVATE APPLICATORS

There is **no fee** for Private applicator license renewals. However, **a license will not generate unless the "\$0.00" renewal invoice is processed.** The most efficient way to process these invoices is by using the "paying online" directions that are provided above in the General Information section.

PESTICIDE OPERATORS

Pesticide Operator renewal invoices are mailed directly to the employer. Please note that once a Licensed Operator leaves a business, it is the employer's responsibility to notify the Department in writing of the employee's departure within 30 calendar days from the last date of employment.

Q: How does an employer notify the Department when an Operator is no longer employed?

Requests to delete an Operator license from a business can be emailed to Brittney.Strano@dep.nj.gov

PESTICIDE BUSINESSES

Pesticide businesses are required to update their insurance information during the annual license renewal. In an effort to reduce paper, Insurance Verification Forms are not included with the business license renewal invoices.

- When renewing online, an Insurance Verification Form is not necessary because the insurance information is required as part of the online process.
- When renewing by mailing in payment to the *Division of Revenue*, you must print and complete the Insurance Verification form, and include it with the payment.

Q: Where can I find an insurance verification form?

To access the form, click this link

<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/enforcement/pcp/Insurance%20Coverage%20Verification%20Form.pdf>

RECIPROCAL LICENSES

If a five-year reciprocal license recertification cycle expires on 10/30/2020, a license renewal invoice will not be generated until a copy of the valid pesticide license from your primary licensing state has been received or if the required recertification credits have been obtained: 16 credits per category and 8 credits for Core.

Q. Where should I send the copy of my primary state license?

Copies of licenses should be emailed to Joanne.Taroco@dep.nj.gov

How to Contact Us:

General Questions: Latangerla.Hunter@dep.nj.gov

Exam related questions: Lula.Hollice@dep.nj.gov

Operator Licenses: Brittney.Strano@dep.nj.gov

Recertification courses and credits Pestcertcourses@dep.nj.gov

Unit Supervisor: Joanne.Taroco@dep.nj.gov