

# The Blueberry Bulletin

## A Weekly Update to Growers

July 19, 2022

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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**

It is late July and harvest of 'Bluecrop' is well under way. Of course, the priority right now is harvesting but as dry as it has been, keeping on top of irrigation is also a priority. Fruit production is a stress for the blueberry plant but added water stress will decrease fruit quality now and could damage the plants in the future. Blueberry plants require 2 inches of water every 7-10 days and we have not come close to that mark recently. It should be also stated that it is too late for any nitrogen applications. Our research has shown that late applications of N will decrease winter hardiness, increase the incidence of stem blight, and increase aphid numbers. Any other nutrient deficiencies that occur can be addressed at this time.



  
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 increased from last week. SWD is the main target for insecticide sprays on Bluecrop and later varieties.

|      | 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  |
| 6/25 | 22.95  | 82  | 12.07  | 43  |
| 7/2  | 31.86  | 159 | 13     | 17  |
| 7/9  | 40.55  | 163 | 17.1   | 45  |
| 7/15 | 37.22  | 201 | 63.92  | 177 |

**Aphids:** Percent of aphid-infested terminals was on average 4.8%, with a high of 68%.

|      | % Shoot Infestation Leafroller |     | % Terminals Infested by 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  |
| 6/25 | 0                              | 0   | 5.6                            | 58  |
| 7/2  | 0                              | 0   | 7.5                            | 60  |
| 7/9  | 0.02                           | 2   | 7.001                          | 76  |
| 7/15 | 0                              | 0   | 4.8                            | 68  |

**Scale:** The average infested berries was 0.05, with a high of 0.8.

### **Blueberry Maggot (BBM), Oriental Beetle (OB) and Sharp-nosed Leafhopper (SNLH) traps:**

|      | 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  |
| 6/25 | 0      | 0   | 0      | 0   | 675   | 675   | 1536  | 8000 |
| 7/2  | 0.011  | 1   | 0.04   | 1   | 2395  | 8100  | 1763  | 6000 |
| 7/9  | 0      | 0   | 0      | 0   | 3358  | 12825 | 2174  | 6743 |
| 7/15 | 0      | 0   | 0.05   | 1   | 1486  | 6075  | 1059  | 7087 |

*Cooperating Agencies:* Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer.

## PEST MANAGEMENT

|      | SNLH AC |     | SNLH BC |     |
|------|---------|-----|---------|-----|
|      | Avg     | Max | Avg     | Max |
| 6/18 | 0       | 0   | 0       | 0   |
| 6/25 | 0.02    | 1   | 0.76    | 10  |
| 7/2  | 0.22    | 5   | 0       | 0   |
| 7/9  | 0.456   | 7   | 2.33    | 13  |
| 7/15 | 0.22    | 2   | 0.09    | 1   |

**Infested fruit - Mummy Berry, Anthracnose and Alternaria:** This week, the average infested fruit by Anthracnose was 0.07, with a high 0.9. Mummy Berry and Alternaria symptoms are very low in the fields.

|      | Mummy Berry |     | Anthracnose |     | Alternaria |     |
|------|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|------------|-----|
|      | Avg         | Max | Avg         | Max | Avg        | Max |
| 6/25 | 0.0005      | 0.1 | 0.05        | 2.2 | 0.0005     | 0.1 |
| 7/2  | 0.001       | 0.1 | 0.05        | 1.2 | 0.002      | 0.2 |
| 7/9  | 0           | 0   | 0.05        | 1.3 | 0.019      | 0.5 |
| 7/15 | 0           | 0   | 0.07        | 0.9 | 0.045      | 0.4 |

**Leps (Lepidoptera larva – green fruitworms, leafrollers, spanworms, spongy (= gypsy moth)) and Plum Curculio (PC):**

|      | % 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   |
| 6/25 | 0.001                     | 0.1 | 0                 | 0   |
| 7/2  | 0.012                     | 0.2 | 0                 | 0   |
| 7/9  | 0.003                     | 0.2 | 0                 | 0   |
| 7/15 | 0.005                     | 0.2 | 0                 | 0   |