

The Blueberry Bulletin

A Weekly Update to Growers

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- Visit the Blueberry Bulletin webpage at <u>njaes.rutgers.edu/blueberry-bulletin</u>
- ❖ The 2022 Commercial Blueberry Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey is available on <u>njaes.rutgers.edu</u>
- Blueberry Twilight will be held May 24, 2023, 6pm at Atlantic Blueberry check your emails.

BLUEBERRY CULTURE

Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, Ph.D Atlantic County Agriculture Agent

Harvest will begin soon but before that happens it is a perfect time to address the nutrition deficiencies that exist in the field. It must be understood that every essential nutrient affects plant growth and in the final analysis, yield. It is called the principal of limiting factors. Whatever nutrient is most deficient it is decreasing yield the most. When this deficiency is addressed, the next most deficient nutrient is decreasing yield the most. Our leaf analysis data shows that almost all the fields are deficient in Nitrogen, so whatever level of N you have been applying, it is not enough. Next, 88% of samples were low in Iron. This is a good time to use a foliar application of a chelated iron if you are one of the farms that came up short. Copper was short on 86% of the farms. Zinc was short on 68% of the farms and Magnesium on 46% of the farms. Again, a foliar application will address these problems. Note that on 70% of the farms, Boron was high. That means that many farms should omit Boron in 2023. The picture below shows the negative effect of low and high Boron on the blueberry leaves. In addition, the chart below shows the mode of

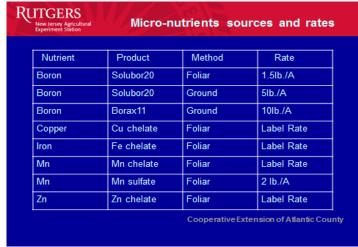
application for the nutrients mentioned.





Oppm 15ppm 50ppm 60ppm 70 ppm 90pp

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Atlantic County Agricultural Agent



PEST MANAGEMENT

Dr. Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Extension Specialist in Blueberry Entomology, Rutgers University Ms. Carrie Mansue, Senior Program Coordinator

Lepidoptera larvae – leafrollers, spongy moth: Activity of leafrollers slightly increased while numbers of spongy moth larvae decreased in the last week compared to the previous week of scouting.

Plum Curculio (PC): PC activity continues to increase and, if needed, this insect should be the main target of insecticide applications after bees are removed. Best post-bloom control options are Avaunt and Imidan.

Cranberry Fruitworm (CBFW) and Cherry Fruitworm (CFW) Traps: Last week, CFW trap counts increased in both Atlantic and Burlington Counties. CBFW activity also increased in Atlantic County.

Insect Sampling Count Summary

	LR/Tray	SM/Tray	PC/Tray	LR/Infested Berries	PC/Infested Berries
Average	0.06	0.02	0.15	0.22	0.67
High	0.4	0.4	1.8	1.9	6.4
LR = Leafroller	s, SM = Spongy N	Moth, PC = Plum Cı	ırculio		

	AC CFW	BC CFW	AC CBFW	BC CBFW
Average	7	10.75	0.2	0
High	11	17	2	0

AC = Atlantic County, BC = Burlington County, CFW = Cherry Fruitworm, CBFW = Cranberry Fruitworm