

The Blueberry Bulletin

A Weekly Update to Growers

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- ❖ Visit the Blueberry Bulletin webpage at njaes.rutgers.edu/blueberry-bulletin
- ❖ The 2024 Commercial Blueberry Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey is available on <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/>

BLUEBERRY CULTURE

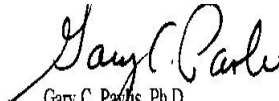
Dr. Gary C. Pavlis, Ph.D , Atlantic County Agriculture Agent

Visits to numerous farms this week have shown some nutrient deficiencies, especially iron. Duke will show an iron deficiency if the pH gets too high, but I believe Duke requires more iron than most varieties and will show the deficiency even when the pH is within the correct range. Micro-nutrient deficiencies are best fixed with a foliar application. The table below shows the methods needed to fix these problems. In addition, the picture below shows the iron deficiency symptoms.



Nutrient	Product	Method	Rate
Boron	Solubor20	Foliar	1.5lb./A
Boron	Solubor20	Ground	5lb./A

Boron	Borax11	Ground	10lb./A
Copper	Cu chelate	Foliar	Label Rate
Iron	Fe chelate	Foliar	Label Rate
Mn	Mn chelate	Foliar	Label Rate
Mn	Mn sulfate	Foliar	2 lb./A
Zn	Zn chelate	Foliar	Label Rate


 Gary C. Payne, Ph.D.
 Atlantic County Agricultural Agent

PEST MANAGEMENT

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

Dr. Janine Spies, IPM Agent – Frui

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During the week of June 10th -June 15th, 192 fields were scouted throughout Burlington and Atlantic Counties.

% injury to infested fruit. The percent of new injury to developing berries was low, and notably absent for PC.

Week Ending	% Injury of Fruit by LR		% Injury of Fruit by PC		% Injury of fruit to CBFW		% Injury of fruit to CFW	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
5/11	0.17	3.9	0.80	12.7				
5/17	0.23	3.0	1.25	13.20				
5/24	0.10	1.40	0.45	11.30				
6/1	0.02	1.10	0.06	2.90				
6/7	0.001	0.10	0.01	0.70	0.02	0.70		
6/15	0.002	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.003	0.20	0.004	0.10

LR = Leafroller, PC = Plum Curculio, CBFW = Cranberry Fruitworm, CFW = Cherry Fruitworm

Cranberry Fruitworm (CBFW) and Cherry Fruitworm (CFW). Trap counts for CBFW and CFW continue to be low and there has been a notable decrease in the number of moths entering fields. Next week will be the last week for traps.

Week Ending	CBFW Traps				CFW Traps			
	AC AVG	AC Max	BC AVG	BC Max	AC AVG	AC Max	BC AVG	BC MAX
4/19	0	0	0	0	0.44	2	0	0
4/26	0.4	3	1	2	0.1	1	0	0
5/4	0	0	0	0	12.1	25	9.5	14
5/11	0	0	0	0	17.25	44	20	24
5/17	0.031	1	0	0	2.25	4	8.25	14
5/24	0	0	0	0	5.75	16	8.75	18
6/1	0	0	0	0	2.125	7	3.25	5
6/7	0	0	0.5	2	1.5	3	2	4
6/15	0	0	0.5	1	0.5	3	0.5	2

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

Scale Traps and Infested fruit. Scale traps were inspected this week, as well as fruit. Scale activity in traps was an average of 42 scale per trap with a high of 89.

Week Ending	% Injury of Fruit by Scale	
	Average	Maximum
6/7	0.04	0.60
6/15	0.05	2.10

% of Infestation on Lower Shoots for Leafroller and Aphids. We continue to find aphids on the lower shoots. In this week's scouting for aphids, fields had an average of 15% of aphids infesting lower shoots, with a high of 88%. Aphids are found near the bottom of the bushes on newly developing shoots that become canes. Since they are close to the ground and near the center of the bush, it can be a challenge to get good spray coverage to control aphids. Where aphids are a problem, use the following insecticides: Admire Pro, Sivanto, Movento, Lannate, or Diazinon. These insecticides are also effective against sharp-nosed leafhoppers.

Week Ending	% Lower Shoots Leafroller		% Lower Shoots Aphids	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
5/24	0.02	2.00	11.03	52
6/1	0.066	4.0	15.37	72
6/7	0.06	4.00	14.66	96
6/15	0.00	0.00	15.42	88

Insect Traps. All traps are set between Burlington and Atlantic County.

Week Ending	SWD		OB		BBM		SNLH	
	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max	Avg	Max
6/7	19.75	64	300.81	2025	0.037	2	0.0173	0.2
6/15	28.31	100	707	4050	0.20	15	0.18	3.00

SWD = Spotted-Wing Drosophila, OB = Oriental Beetle, BBM = Blueberry Maggot Fly, SNLH = Sharp-nosed Leafhopper

Heat Wave and Insecticide Applications. Heat waves, like the one we are experiencing this week, may negatively impact the efficacy of insecticides, making them less toxic to insects. High temperatures can accelerate the breakdown of chemical insecticides, reducing their effective lifespan. This degradation can occur due to direct thermal decomposition or increased volatilization, which reduces the amount of active ingredient available to control insect populations. To maximize the effectiveness of insecticide applications during a heat wave, it is recommended to avoid applying insecticides in the middle of the day when temperatures are at their peak. Instead, apply insecticides during the early cooler hours of the day or in the evening. These time periods are when spotted-wing drosophila is most active, thus ensuring that applications will be most effective.