UMass Cranberry Management Update

Thursday, January 30, 2020
7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Rosebrook Event Center
50 Rosebrook Place, Wareham, MA

Meeting Registration Form on page 7

Tentative Schedule of Events (4 contact hours)

7:30  Registration (with coffee)
8:00  What’s New? – Hilary Sandler, Director
8:10  Optimizing Current Cultural Practices on Fruit Rot – Sai Sree Uppala
8:35  Evaluation of Novel Fungicides for Fruit Rot Management – Sai Sree Uppala
9:00  Herbicide Research Update – Katie Ghantous
9:25  Fruit Quality Options – Giverson Mupambi
9:50  Solar Panels – Giverson Mupambi

10:00  COFFEE BREAK

10:30  Cranberry Breeding and New Options – Dr. Juan Zalapa, USDA, Horticulture
11:15  Frost, Irrigation and Nitrogen Fertilizer – Peter Jeranyama
11:40  A Plan to Sustain Cranberry Production and Improve Water Quality – Casey Kennedy, USDA

12:00  LUNCH BREAK (on your own)
1:15  Climate Change Trends and Their Effects on Plant Communities of Cape Cod – Stephen Smith, CCNS
1:45  Weed Management – Hilary Sandler
2:05  Reviewing Pesticide Labels – Hilary Sandler
2:40  Scale Update and Bee Status – Anne Averill
3:15  Avaunt and Weevil Update – Marty Sylvia
3:30  Wrap-up and Paperwork
To Flood or Not to Flood? That is the Question…

Managing a winter flood is a mix of art, science and experience. You can start a flood anytime now IF winterkill conditions exist: root zone is frozen to a depth of 4 inches, air temperature is below freezing, and strong winds (10 mph or greater) occur. It is likely that 2-3 days with temperatures below 20°F will be enough to freeze the soil. That being said, experience and observations are that the LEAST amount of time you hold a winter flood, the better for your crop. On the other hand, bogs that cannot hold a winter flood can be more susceptible to pest problems like yellow-headed fireworm.

Injury can occur with a flood if the oxygen levels fall below 4 mg/liter (or ppm). The healthy range is 10+ mg/liter. Usually, there is no need to worry about low oxygen if the flood is liquid. If your water source is clear/clean, oxygen levels should be adequate. However, if your bog is way out of grade, the deeper waters (even if clean) may not provide enough oxygen to the plants and you should monitor oxygen levels here even if the flood is not frozen. Typically, oxygen deficiency occurs when the ice is covered by snow or if the ice forms or becomes cloudy. The conventional remedy to low oxygen is to carefully remove the water from under the ice; this allows air to enter in the cracks and restore oxygen levels.

If you have a flood on and if we get a warm spell in January or February, we usually advise NOT to remove the flood. The water will keep the vines cooler during the warm spell, which is typically more advantageous for most commercial situations. If the vines have accrued adequate chilling hours (which could happen by sometime in January) the only thing holding them back is warm temperatures. We will still have many cold days in February and March and you do not want your buds to start pushing prematurely. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Hilary (x21) or Peter (x29).

CRANBERRY STATION NEWS

Happy 2020!

Pesticide Applicator License Exam Prep Training Workshop will be held on February 13th and 14th from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM in the Cranberry Station Library. If you have any questions regarding these workshops or for more information please contact the Pesticide Education office, University of Massachusetts Extension at 413-545-1044. To register online please visit: https://www.umass.edu/pested/training_workshops/registration_form13.htm

Hilary Sandler, Station Director
Grower Survey USDA Hydrology

In light of recent funding to support farm renovations, Casey Kennedy, our USDA Hydrologist, would like the growers to answer a few simple questions so that he may better understand the needs of the industry. USDA plans to use this information to conduct new research that supports farm renovations in Massachusetts.

1. In the absence of any state or federal financial support, which of the following renovation projects are you actively pursuing or planning to pursue? (circle all that apply)

A. New hybrid variety plantings in existing bogs
B. Construction of new upland bogs from scratch
C. Other renovations excluding new plantings (please describe)

D. Not currently interested in renovations
E. Not able to renovate but would like to

2. Were you to receive significant financial support to renovate your cranberry bogs, which of the following projects would you be most interested in? (circle one)

A. New hybrid variety plantings in existing bogs
B. Construction of new upland bogs from scratch
C. Other renovations excluding new plantings (please describe)

3. Which hybrid varieties are you most interested in planting?

4. Besides planting new varieties, which of the following farm renovations would have the biggest impact on production efficiency and yields in your bogs? (rank the top 3 to 5)

____ Irrigation system upgrade
____ Constructing a tailwater recovery pond
____ Installation of tile drainage
____ Levelling bog surface
____ Pump system upgrade
____ Constructing a bypass canal
____ Squaring off perimeter of bogs
____ Other (please describe)
5. Do you own any marginal cranberry bog sections which are irregular in shape, challenging to manage, and/or low-producing relative to the rest of your acreage?

   Yes
   No

6. Which of the following best describes your plan for these marginal sections in the next 5-10 years?

   A. Renovate and improve these sections
   B. Leave as-is but continue harvesting
   C. Retire sections and leave fallow
   D. Seek sale to a 3rd party (another grower, conservation easement, solar panels, etc.)

7. Would you be willing to share details of your renovation projects with USDA (e.g., construction costs, drainage design, varieties planted, sand depths, etc.)?

   Yes
   No

   If Yes, please include name and contact info: ________________________________
   ________________________________

8. Roughly how much granular and liquid fertilizer do you apply to your bogs?

   _____ granular (% of total fertilizer amount)
   _____ liquid (% of total fertilizer amount)

Thank you for taking a moment to fill out and submit this survey. Please mail back to: UMass Cranberry Station, PO Box 569, East Wareham, MA 02538
Meeting Registration Form

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7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Rosebrook Event Center
50 Rosebrook Place, Wareham, MA

$35.00 per person**
Must be postmarked by 1/18/20

After 1/18/20 you are considered a “walk-in”: cost will be $50.00 per person. Please contact the Station to be added to the “walk-in” list.

Please make checks payable to UMass and return payment to:
UMass Cranberry Station
PO Box 569
East Wareham, MA 02538

*Remember to bring your Photo ID and Pesticide Number

PLEASE PRINT
ALL meeting attendees MUST register and pay (whether receiving credits or not)

Registration Fee is non-refundable after 1/18/20

NAME: ________________________________
COMPANY: ________________________________
EMAIL: ________________________________
PHONE: ________________________________

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

NAME: ________________________________
COMPANY: ________________________________
EMAIL: ________________________________

**To keep our registration fee affordable, the Station will not be taking credit cards as a form of payment for this meeting.

2020 Cranberry Station Newsletter Mailing List Form

~ Annual subscription is FREE when sent postal delivery for Massachusetts growers, cranberry researchers and IPM consultants.

~ Annual subscription sent postal delivery for out-of-state growers and industry personnel is $15.

~ Annual subscription sent via email is FREE including out-of-state and/or industry personnel.

NAME: ________________________________
COMPANY: ________________________________
ADDRESS: ________________________________
TOWN: ________________________________
STATE: ____________ ZIP: ________________________________
PHONE: ________________________________
EMAIL: ________________________________

POSTAL DELIVERY ______ OR EMAIL ______ (please choose one)

CHECK ONE

☐ Owner
☐ Employee
☐ Researcher
☐ Consultant
☐ Industry
☐ Private Sector

All out-of-state growers and industry personnel who choose to receive their annual subscription by postal delivery, please include a check payable to UMass and return to: UMass Cranberry Station, PO Box 569, East Wareham, MA 02358.
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