



Cranberry Station Newsletter

MAY 2006

UMASS CRANBERRY STATION

1 STATE BOG ROAD

P.O. BOX 569

EAST WAREHAM, MA 02538

<http://www.umass.edu/cranberry>

LOOKING FOR BEDS WITH HIGHER LEVELS OF FRUIT ROT FOR 2007

As most of you know, State Bog is going to be renovated after the 2006 harvest. That means my 'ole reliable' Section 13 with its high level of fungal inoculum will not be available for my fruit rot trials from 2007-2009 (at least). My testing will need to be done on grower's beds during that time frame. I'll be scaling back my projects during that time and will confine my testing to a 40' x 40' area probably. I'll need one or two grower's beds. If you have a bed with reliable for fruit rot (cultivar is not important) and you would consider it being a home for my testing, please contact me. I can discuss with you what it will mean in the short run and the long run.

FRANK L. CARUSO
PLANT PATHOLOGY

FLASH FLOODS FOR REDUCTION OF BLACK-HEADED FIREWORM

A 24 – 48 hour flood in mid- to late-May can often slow the progress of black-headed fireworm on a bog, saving you the cost of 1 spray. We believe these floods are a good option for pest control as they generally have little effect on vine carbohydrate concentration due to their short duration. However, we recommend avoiding flooding situations at this time of year if the water temperature on the bog exceeds about 68°F. Maximizing the volume of water on the bog will help maintain a cooler water temperature.

JUSTINE VANDEN HEUVEL AND MARTY SYLVIA

2006 INSECT SEASON

Insect pressure is starting off slow and even. Despite mild winter conditions, the cool spring has kept the insects at bay so far. Cranberry weevil is awake and in the woods. Counts of only 1 here and there have been found on bogs to date. Give them time; they will build-up. Black-headed fireworm has begun to hatch and vigilance at this point would be wise. If you have had a problem, sweeping and visual assessments should begin as soon as possible, but they are very small right now. Be on the lookout for yellow-headed fireworm if your winter flood was not held very long. Gypsy moths and cutworms are already out but very small. Winter moth larvae may be feeding at this point and could be on cranberry. Be aware that tent caterpillars are abundant but do not feed on cranberry. If cool weather continues as forecast, insects will be slow to build up.

MARTY SYLVIA AND ANNE AVERILL
ENTOMOLOGY LAB

WATER AND FRUIT ROT MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2006 9 AM - 12 NOON

This workshop at the UMass Cranberry Station will cover building and installing a lampinometer water level float, irrigation and drainage information, and a review of cranberry fruit rot management. **ONE** contact hour will be offered towards pesticide re-certification. The cost is \$20.00 per person and you will get a float to take home with you.

PLEASE return attached SIGN UP form (page 3) by May 17th to attend.

WHAT'S THIS I HEAR ABOUT A NEW HERBICIDE?

I have received several phone calls and inquiries and heard several rumors about "our new herbicide", Callisto. I wanted to clarify that **IT IS ILLEGAL** to use Callisto on cranberries in Massachusetts. Although it is labeled for use in MA for other commodities (such as corn), cranberries are NOT currently on the label in this state. We have finished the residue trials (IR-4) and the paperwork is winding its way through EPA. We anticipate that we might have a full label in 2007. Be assured that I will send out announcements and use pattern instructions whenever the material is approved. Until then, please **DO NOT** use Callisto on your cranberry farms.

Some of the confusion likely stems from the fact that the Pacific Northwest cranberry industry received an emergency exemption to use Callisto in 2005 and again in 2006. They received the permit to use the herbicide against certain serious weeds (primarily for silverleaf, the common name for a *Potentilla* species that is not a problem in MA) for which they have no other control option. Some of you probably heard that a Section 18 was granted for the use of Callisto in cranberries and that is true; but it is **ONLY** applicable for the Washington & Oregon industries.

To be granted a Section 18 permit, one must demonstrate that there are no other viable control options **AND** without this particular pesticide, an economic emergency would occur in the industry. In our situation, Callisto is effective in controlling nut sedge (primarily), other sedges, and probably some rushes and other broadleaf weeds. At present however, we have other materials available that will control these weeds. As a result, I could not legitimately demonstrate that we would have an economic crisis if we did not get to use Callisto prior to its full registration. We have an excellent track record for obtaining Section 18 permits. This is because we have only applied for permits when they are truly justified. Being so selective improves our credibility at EPA, which is very beneficial when we really do have a crisis and really need the emergency exemption.

If you hear about new compounds that you think are available for use, please contact us at the station to verify the information before you purchase or use the material. Callisto will be an excellent herbicide for the cranberry industry when it is approved by EPA. If you have any other questions about Callisto, please feel free to call me.

HILARY SANDLER
IPM/WEED SPECIALIST

CRANBERRY FRUITWORM, SPARGANOTHIS FRUITWORM AND FERTILIZER MANAGEMENT MEETING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2006 10AM - 12 NOON

This Cranberry Station workshop is free and will be held in the station library. **ONE** contact hour will be offered toward pesticide re-certification.
NO SIGN UP NECESSARY.

WORKER PROTECTION TRAININGS

Worker Protection Trainings for cranberry workers in the handler category will be offered in the spring of 2006: May 31, and June 28. 2PM in the station library. The Cost is \$5.00 per person. Checks payable to UMass.

Contact Marty Sylvia: 508-295-2212, ext. 20 for additional information.

UMass Cranberry Station
1 State Bog Road, P.O. Box 569
East Wareham, MA 02538
(508) 295-2212 FAX (508) 295-6387

Dr. Carolyn DeMoranville, Director

MAY 2006, Issue

Deborah Cannon, Editor

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Dr. Carolyn DeMoranville
Station Director

FREE AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDE DISPOSAL EVENTS

There will be a series of free pesticide collection and disposal events for agricultural operations, over the coming year. All events are funded by the Department of Agricultural Resources through a grant from EPA. Department of Agricultural Resources Contact: Gerard Kennedy at 617-626-1773.

Currently events are scheduled in western Massachusetts and on Cape Cod in cooperation with Cape Cod Cooperative Extension. Cape events are open to off-Cape farmers in Southeastern Massachusetts.

- There will be at least twenty events on Cape Cod running from May 13 to October 28 (several each month) where agricultural operations can dispose of pesticides.
- The contact person for the Cape program is Marilyn Lopes. For more details, please call 1-800-319-2783 or 508-375-6699 or go to www.capecodextension.org/agpest
- You must preregister the materials you will bring for disposal, including the weight or volume of material. A form, available on the web site and with this newsletter, must be filed at least 2 weeks prior to the date on which you will participate.
- You may transport no more than 55 gallons or 440 pounds of product at one time. Additional information about storage and transport is available on the web site listed above.

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR WATER AND FRUIT ROT
MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP
Wednesday, May 24, 2006
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Cranberry Station Library**

Please register for the meeting using this form

COMPANY _____

CONTACT _____

PHONE _____

NAME OF ATTENDEES _____

**Return completed form with payment by
May 17, 2006
Check payable to: UMASS
\$20.00 per person.**

**Return to: Cranberry Station
P.O. Box 569
East Wareham, MA 02538**

attach additional sheets as necessary

STATE BOG RENOVATION - WE'D LIKE YOUR INPUT!

As previously reported in the newsletter, we are in the process of planning for the renovation of State Bog to begin after the 2006 harvest. We hope to take this as an opportunity to redesign the bog to maximize our ability to do research as well as to showcase new methods and varieties.

If you have any ideas to share on the project in general, please get in touch with Carolyn (x25) before the end on May. In addition, we are looking for ideas for the specific part of the project detailed below.

Segregating Bog Sections for Flooding Research

One area that will be new is the construction of flood beds to allow us to compare flood practices — their pest control benefits and their impact on cranberry plants. In order to do this we need to construct areas that can be flooded and drained independently.

In our plan for the renovation of State Bog, we've included 8 small, separate sections (approx. 30 x 30 ft) for flooding research. Our goal is to have the ability to flood (or not flood) each of these sections separately so that we can ideally compare flooded and non-flooded sections in close proximity to one another on the bog.

Our original plan called for use of marine sheet piling (thick corrugated plastic) or metal sheets to separate these sections, however we're concerned about cost and durability (of the metal) and think that these materials may be more than what we need to hold back relatively small volumes of water. On the other hand, earthen dikes have quite a large footprint and will use up valuable space.

Do you have any ideas on another method we could use to separate these sections? We need to finalize the design by the end of May.

Please get in touch with either Carolyn (x25) or Justine (x29) if you have any ideas.