



Cranberry Station Newsletter April 9, 2018

UMass Cranberry Station
1 State Bog Road
P.O. Box 569
East Wareham, MA 02538
ag.umass.edu/cranberry
(508) 295-2212

**Last chance to register for \$55.00
before April 13th deadline**

UMass Pesticide Safety Training

All you need to know in 4 hours or less

Registration information on page 5

4 Contact Hours

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Rosebrook Event Center

TownePlace Suites Marriott

Wareham, MA 02571

Cranberry Station is seeking a Skilled Laborer

We are in the process of finalizing paperwork that will allow us to hire a Skilled Laborer. This is a full-time benefited University position. Under the direction of Rick Leibe (our farm manager), the successful candidate will assist in the maintenance and operation of State Bog and Rocky Pond Bog (18 acres) and our greenhouse facilities. They will also help in the overall maintenance of our grounds and buildings, perform minor repairs on vehicles and equipment and assist our faculty and staff in their projects as needed. Please visit our web site (<http://ag.umass.edu/cranberry>) for the link to Interview Exchange (we expect it will be available soon). All applicants will need to apply on-line for this position. The earliest the job will be available will be May 13, 2018. Please call the station and contact Robyn Hardy (x10) if you have any questions.

CHART BOOKS ARE IN!

Please stop by the Station to pick up your **FREE** copy of the Chart Book. Remember this is the first release of a multi-year edition.



Cranberry Station Director

SPRING WEED MANAGEMENT

Using QuinStar. QuinStar (quinclorac) can be used either PRE or POST emergence. It is effective against looestrife and other broadleaf species, dodder, and some grasses. However, there remain export (MRL) issues with Quinclorac and you should check with your handler PRIOR to using this herbicide. Do not apply to vines that are stressed. Aerial applications are NOT permitted. You can only do 2 applications per 12-month period; you must wait at least 30 days between applications. We have a 2ee that permits injection times of less than 30-45 minutes (label language), as per your experience. A crop oil concentrate should be added (2 pt/A) to POST applications. The effects of QuinStar on susceptible weeds may take a while (e.g., several weeks) to a long time (e.g., the following season) to show.

Dodder Management. Scout for early emerging seedlings; this is important whether you are applying Casoron or QuinStar or using floods. If your handler permits, QuinStar can be used PRE or early POST.

If you have had success with Casoron, plan to use it for dodder control. Some growers that had poor dodder control with 40 lb/A saw improved efficacy by increasing the rate to 60 or 80 lb/A. If you have had unsatisfactory control with 40 lb/A in the past, consider increasing the rate. Improved control was seen with either a single application of the higher rate, or two applications (i.e. 40 lb/A, followed by 20 lb/A a few weeks later).

Consider using short floods (24-48 hr, ca. mid-May). Better control seems to be correlated with floods made 4 weeks after first seedling emergence. Floods will not affect dodder seeds that have not germinated. Control early season dodder hosts (other broadleaf weeds) with preemergence herbicides. Remove dodder by hand as soon as it appears. Callisto is commonly chemigated PRE-emergence, followed by a POST spot-spray application. Some growers report better control with using two POST applications instead. In our experience, it is better to treat dodder before it flowers. Flame cultivation or concentrated solutions of Callisto before flowering and/or during flowering significantly reduces seed production. Raking heavy infestations can open up the canopy and help reduce vine stress.

Kerb Update. IT IS ILLEGAL TO USE KERB ON CRANBERRIES IN 2018. The residue package has left IR-4 Headquarters and is currently under review by EPA. We are hopeful for a label to be released in 2019. Please keep in mind that even if/when the label is approved, there will be NO MRL thresholds for Kerb for our export markets. This will likely affect many growers who might like to use Kerb for dodder and/or grass control in the future when we have a label.

Herbicides and Frost Nights. There is always the concern of when to apply pre-emergence (PRE) herbicides in relation to a predicted string of frost nights. Devrinol needs to stay within the upper root zone to be effective. If you apply PRIOR to a string of frost nights, it is likely that you wash the herbicide past the root zone and will have reduced efficacy. You could probably tolerate 1 or 2 short frost nights, but much past that, you will likely not see the weed control you would have hoped for with Devrinol. If you hold off applying and a string of frost-protection-free nights are predicted, you should still get expected efficacy from Devrinol applications provided your target weeds have not emerged yet.

With Casoron, the important thing is soil temperature. Casoron needs to volatilize to form a vapor barrier through which the germinating plants will pass. This is basically how we get weed control with this herbicide. If the soil temperature is below 50°F, the herbicide will not vaporize and efficacy will be reduced because you have a greater chance of washing ‘non-volatilized’ herbicide past the root zone during frost nights. Casoron has a bit more tenacity to hang in the root zone than Devrinol, but applying more than 1 inch of water is likely to reduce the efficacy of Casoron.

ARE YOU RENOVATING AND/OR PLANNING TO USE FUMIGANTS?

You must complete EPA fumigant training before applying any fumigant. Fumigants are permissible on renovated cranberry beds provided that no fruit will be harvested within 12 months of application. Fumigants should be used on an entire section. If it is used on part of section, no fruit can be harvested or delivered from the entire (contiguous) section.

You **must** get certified/pass the module on EPA's web site before using fumigants. As required by updated soil fumigant product labels, certified applicators must successfully complete an EPA-approved training program covering the new soil fumigant provisions. Basamid is listed under the name “dazomet” on the EPA web site. Please go to the EPA’s web site for more information: <https://www.epa.gov/soil-fumigants/soil-fumigant-training-certified-applicators>.

You **must** take Modules 1-4 plus the module specific to your use; Basamid (dazomet) is discussed in Module 7. Vapam is metam sodium (Module 8). The certification process is NOT regulated by MDAR; it is a federal EPA requirement.

Note: There is a provision that if you are already certified in a soil fumigation (sub)category and your state is listed with additional training option and requirements, you can bypass the training. Massachusetts is NOT one of these states! So you must take and pass the modules.

GOT MONGREL VINES?

We are looking for bogs with patches of mongrel (off-type) vines. As vines come out of dormancy in the spring, these are easy to spot by the variations in color. Although these patches are most notable in Early Black beds because the color difference is dramatic, we are looking for patches in other varieties like Howes, Ben Lear, Stevens, or any of the hybrid varieties. We are interested in collection information about these types of vines. If you do have mongrel vines on your bogs, please contact **Krystal DeMoranville (508-295-2212 x 27)**.

MANAGING WEEDS ON NEW PLANTINGS

Callisto is an excellent choice for weed control on new plantings. It provides both broadleaf and grass control (many species). It can be applied to unrooted cuttings or rooted plugs within days of planting (if needed). Lower rates (4-6 oz/A) can provide excellent control of weeds (early POST or POST), but only two applications are permitted. We have a Special Local Needs (SLN) for the use of the Devrinol XT formulations (the dry flowable formulation only) on new plantings. You can use multiple applications of up to 9 lb or qt/A not to exceed 18 lb or qt/A per year. Labels are available through the Cranberry Station and should be available at all points of purchase. Using a combination of Devrinol PRE and 1 shot of Callisto POST is highly recommended and effective. For maximal effectiveness over the longest time possible, applications should be (but not legally required to) be separated by 2-4 weeks.

THOUGHTS ON MOWING AND PRUNING

You may have already/be thinking of mowing or pruning your vines. You should do so BEFORE the vines break bud. Depending on the weather (if it gets warm), the window could be closing very soon. Mongrel vines have been changing color (moving out of dormancy) over the past 1-2 weeks; the standard varieties will not be far behind. Light to medium pruning is beneficial to the vine canopy, improving air movement (circulation) and light penetration, which helps to reduce fruit rot. Color development and bee-access to flowers are also better in a well-maintained canopy. Prunings can be used to replant new areas or fill in bare spots. Pruning can cause mechanical damage, so care should be taken to minimize this. Removal of more than 1 ton/A may reduce yield but it is likely to rebound in the second year.

Hilary Sandler and Katie Ghantous

PRELIMINARY KEEPING QUALITY FORECAST

The preliminary keeping quality forecast is POOR. As of April 1, there is only 1 point out of a possible 10 that favor keeping quality for the 2018 Massachusetts cranberry crop. The sole point was awarded for favorable sunshine hours for February (124 hr) which were less than the 50-year average for that month (143 hr). Consequently, the forecast is for poor keeping quality.

The final keeping quality forecast (issued after June 1) could be upgraded if we have a cool and dry April and May. Based on the present forecast, fungicide applications and the rate of fungicides applied should NOT be reduced, and close attention should be paid where fruit rot has been a major or regular concern.

According to Carolyn DeMoranville, former Station Director, a poor keeping quality forecast would be reason to hold late water this year. However, if you see winter damage from not being under water in December and January, you should not use later water and now is the time to inspect for possible damage. Based on the current weather, you should not have to start late water particularly early. Late water floods should be applied prior to the breaking of bud dormancy. Generally, the 30-day LW flood will be applied between April 15th and 20th. Do not apply the flood if the buds have broken dormancy. See Chart Book for more information on late water floods.

Peter Jeranyama, Plant Physiology

**UMASS CRANBERRY STATION
WORKER PROTECTION STANDARD HANDLER TRAININGS
Annual training is now required!**

Worker Protection Training using the new materials from the EPA for cranberry workers in the Handler category for Spring 2018 will be held on the following Wednesdays: **April 25th, May 30th and June 27th** in the **Cranberry Station Library, 2:00-4:00 PM.**

There is a \$10 fee to cover the cost of the WPS training manual. If you have a pesticide license, you do not need this training. If you have workers, they do need this training!

Contact **Marty Sylvia: 508-295-2212, ext. 20** to sign up or for additional information!

UMASS PESTICIDE SAFETY TRAINING REGISTRATION FORM

**Wednesday, April 25, 2018
7:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Rosebrook Event Center
TownePlace Suites Marriot
Wareham, MA**

**\$55.00 per person
Must be postmarked by 4/13/18**
After 4/13/18 you are considered a "walk-in":
cost will be **\$75.00 per person**. Please contact the
Station to be added to the "walk-in" list.

You now can register with a credit card online at:

www.regonline.com/2018crampst

or

Please make checks payable to **UMass** and return
registration form along with payment to:

**UMass Cranberry Station
PO Box 569
East Wareham, MA 02538**

Please bring your Photo ID and Pesticide Number

PLEASE PRINT

ALL Pesticide Safety Training (4/25/18) attendees **MUST** register and pay (whether receiving credits or not)

Name: _____

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

COMPANY: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____



**CRANBERRY STATION
NEWSLETTER**

Inside this issue:

- **Pesticide Safety signup**
 - ◆ \$55.00 if postmarked by 4/13/18
- **Preliminary KQF**
- **WPS Training**
- **Spring Weed Management**
- **Skilled Laborer Wanted**

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

EAST WAREHAM, MA 02538

P.O. BOX 569

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS

UMASS EXTENSION