



April 14, 2021

*1 State Bog Road
East Wareham, MA 02538*

*508-295-2212
ag.umass.edu/cranberry*

Vol. 22:4

2021 UMass Cranberry Pesticide Safety Meeting

The 2021 UMass Cranberry Pesticide Safety Meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 27th and Wednesday, April 28th via Zoom from 7:30-11 AM (8:00 -10:00AM for credit) both days (2 contact hours for each). You will need to register online for each with your email, and you will need to answer poll questions during the 8:00-10:00 AM sessions to be awarded pesticide credits*. Payment will be processed separately - Cost will be \$20/each day, or discount of \$30 for both days. To attend see "Meeting Payment Form" on Page 5.

DAY ONE: Tuesday, April 27, 2021

7:30 Check in ONLINE, bog updates?

8:00 MDAR, WPS, and Safety Review – Marty Sylvia

8:30 An Herbicide Review! - Katie Ghantous

9:00 Cranberry Fungicide Options: A Review – Leela Uppala

9:30 Tank Mixing and Adjuvants – Mike Utley, Nutrien/Hilary Sandler

10:00 Stretch Break

10:10 Station Construction Update – Hilary Sandler

10:30 Cost and Benefits of Renovation – Casey Kennedy

DAY TWO: Wednesday, April 28, 2021

7:30 Check in ONLINE, bog updates?

8:00 Managing New and Difficult Weeds – Hilary Sandler

8:20 Sprayer Calibration – George Hamilton, UNH Extension

8:50 Aquatic Weed ID and Management – Lyn Gettys, University of Florida/IFAS

9:15 Getting ready for Spring Sweeping – Anne Averill

9:40 The New Problems Ruining Our Day (bugs)! – Marty Sylvia

10:00 Stretch Break

10:10 Tensiometers and Irrigation – Cody Jones, Hortau

10:30 Fertilizer and Frost - Peter Jeranyama

*Please note: payment must be received before mailing proof of credits.

2021 Preliminary Keeping Quality Forecast

Peter Jeranyama and Leela Uppala

The forecast is for **FAIR** preliminary keeping quality.

As of April 1, there are 3 points out of a possible 10 that favor keeping quality for the 2021 Massachusetts cranberry crop. The 3 points were awarded for sunshine hours in February which was less than 143 hours (1 point) and favorable sunshine hours in March which were greater than 179 hours (2 points). 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 preliminary forecast, fruit rot fungicide applications and the rate of fungicides applied should not be reduced. As for the holding of late water, there are no definitive indicators pro or con. Some growers have indicated that vines are showing stress, this could be partly due to the prolonged drought of 2020 or winter injury among other possibilities. Growers should determine whether to hold late water based on specific bed conditions. Please check the table below and the section on late water in the Chart Book for advice regarding the implementation of this cultural practice. If you have any questions, please contact Leela Uppala at suppala@umass.edu or 508-295-2212 x18.

Late Water is Advised:

- Once in three years for 4 weeks from Mid-April to Mid-May.
- If the scale and/or fruit rot incidences were high in 2020.
- If your bog looks healthy and not showing any signs of stress.
- If your bed was properly flooded at the periods of coldest temperatures.
- If you have access to good quality water supplies.

Late Water is Not Advised:

- If you held late water in the past two years.
- If your bog produced a heavy crop in 2020.
- If the bed was sanded the previous year.
- If the bog is stressed and shows signs of winter injury.
- If your bog is severely out of grade.

Virtual Grower Lunchtime Bogside Workshops

We will be holding 2 virtual grower lunchtime bogside workshops on **Wednesday, May 12, 2021** and **Wednesday, June 9, 2021** both from **12:00-1:00 PM** where topics of the day will be discussed.

There is **no fee** to attend but you will need to sign into the meeting. We will be asking questions using a polling function and would like you to answer questions to show your attention and attendance. You will earn 1 pesticide credit for Category 30 for each workshop. We will send out your certificate after the meeting to your home address.

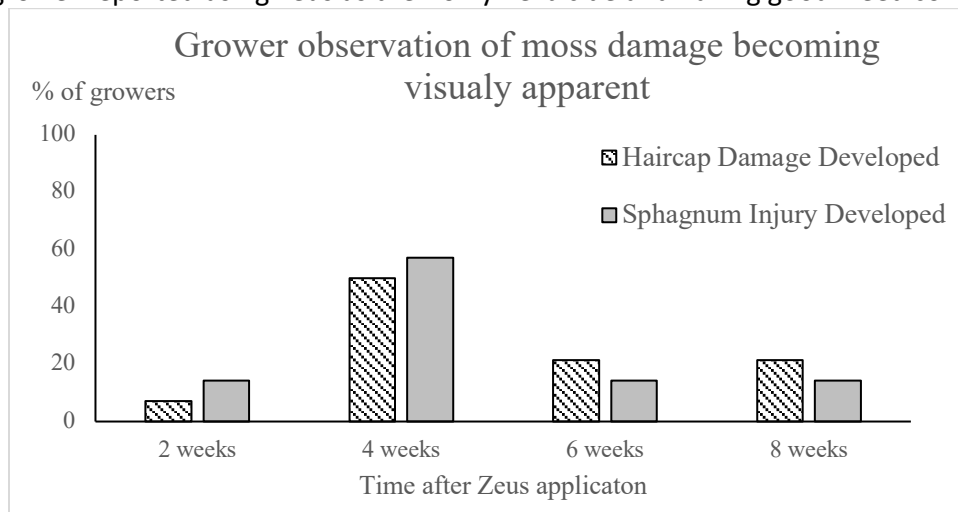
If you would like to participate, please contact Robyn Hardy: 508-295-2212 x10 or rmhardy@umass.edu and she will share the directions and link.

Survey Results on 2020 use of Zeus

Massachusetts received a Special Local Needs label for cranberry growers to apply Zeus (a.i. sulfentrazone) for control of moss and other susceptible weeds in 2020. We identified 37 MA growers who had purchased Zeus in the spring of 2020 and sent a survey by email to those growers to ask about their experiences using Zeus. We received nine responses online and mailed paper surveys to those growers who did not respond online. We received another five replies by mail for a total of 14 respondents (38% response rate).

Zeus was applied to beds of various cranberry varieties: Ben Lear (1), Crimson Queen (1), Demoranville (1), Early Black (4), Grygleski (1), Howes (4), Mullica Queen (4), and Stevens (9). Application dates ranged from 3/29 to 5/10, with most (71%) applications occurring in April, one application in March, and three in early May. In regard to cranberry phenology, 71% of applications occurred when cranberry had tight buds, and 29% when buds were swollen. Most growers (79%) applied the max rate of 12 oz/A, while 14% applied 10 oz/A, and 7% applied 8 oz/A. All growers using Zeus were targeting haircap moss, and 36% were also targeting sphagnum moss.

Most growers reported that moss injury became visible 4 weeks after treatments were applied, but some felt it took as long as 8 weeks for injury to become apparent (Fig 1). Most growers (69%) reported that control improved over time (moss injury got worse), 23% felt it stayed consistent throughout the season, while less than 8% felt that the control lessened (moss recovered). When asked about impacts to weeds other than moss, some growers reported seeing control of weeds such as sedges, yellow loosestrife, and grasses. One grower reported using Zeus as their only herbicide and having good weed control all season.



When asked about impacts to cranberry plants, 86% of growers surveyed reported no noticeable impacts to cranberry while 14% reported some mild stunting (delayed development of buds; one grower on Stevens and one on Ben Lear; both reported applying at tight bud). When asked about impacts to cranberry fruit yield, 93% (13 growers) reported no impact noted, while 7% (one grower) felt that it decreased the yield somewhat. The grower who reported a yield decrease also reported stunting (on Stevens).

Most felt that the cost of Zeus was average relative to other herbicides on a per acre basis (77%), while some found it to be inexpensive (23%). When asked if they planned on using Zeus again, growers indicated “yes” (64%) or “maybe” (36%).

Cranberry Station News

- **Do you still need a Chart Book?** The 2012-2023 Chart Books are now available. **Since public access to our buildings is restricted due to the pandemic, we cannot accommodate unscheduled walk-ins.** You can have one mailed to you (**\$6 mailing fee per book**) or we can arrange a contactless pickup for you. Please contact Robyn Hardy at rmhardy@umass.edu or 508-295-2212 x10 to arrange mailing or pickup.
- **IPM Message is now Activated.** Catch up on what's going on by calling the IPM Message at 508-295-2212 x60 or go to our home page and click on IPM Message (right-hand side 'Quick Links'). The message by Friday each week. If you "see something" and want to "say something", please call Hilary 508-295-2212 (x21) or email (hsandler@umass.edu) and I can include it in the message.
- **Changes in SLN for Intensity.** The registrant is withdrawing its support for the use of Intensity by chemigation. They are moving quickly to withdraw this use and will likely be effective in 2021. You will still be able to apply Intensity by ground or air. The SLN that removes the timing restriction (no application from hook through fruit set) for Intensity will not be affected. Intensity One will now be the **ONLY** grass herbicide that can be chemigated. Any questions, contact Hilary.
- **Application Window for Kerb.** Applications for dodder control should be targeted within 7-10 of early emergence of dodder seedlings. Depending on your location, seedlings could start emerging in late April-early May. Kerb is available through a Section 18 permit. Labels and paperwork are available on our web site under "Service/Special Pesticide Labels".
- **Signs of Vine Stress.** We have been hearing about and visiting bogs with vines in distress coming out of the winter. Some bogs have leaf drop, some have dead vines, and some are showing typical upright dieback symptoms. Several samples have already come into the Diagnostic Lab. We do not know yet if it is abiotic or biotic or some combination. Symptoms may be exacerbated by the drought last fall, sending stressed vines into the winter. As these early samples come in for diagnosis and we find out more information, we will post on the IPM message (phone and website). Contact Leela for more information at suppala@umass.edu or 508-295-2212 (x18). Leela is working on a fact sheet for Upright Dieback and it should be available soon. We will post it on the web site when it is ready.

Stay safe,



Hilary A. Sandler, Director

UMass Cranberry Pesticide Safety Meeting Payment Form

To sign up for the UMass Cranberry Pesticide Safety Meeting please complete the information below. Once your payment is received, a confirmation email will be sent with a link to register your email online. **All** meeting attendees **MUST** pay to register your email whether receiving credits or not.

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL (required): _____

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL (required): _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL (required): _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL (required): _____

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL (required): _____

PLEASE CHECK:

_____ **DAY ONE:** Tuesday, April 27, 2021 (\$20)

_____ **Mail Meeting Survey to me**

_____ **DAY TWO:** Wednesday, April 28, 2021 (\$20)

_____ **Will print out Meeting Survey on my own**

_____ **BOTH:** (\$30)

Please make checks payable to **UMass** and return payment by **4/23/21** to:

UMass Cranberry Station
1 State Bog Road
East Wareham, MA 02538

If you have any questions, contact Robyn Hardy 508-295-2212 x10 or rmhardy@umass.edu



**CRANBERRY STATION
NEWSLETTER**

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS