



June 26, 2020

1 State Bog Road  
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[ag.umass.edu/cranberry](http://ag.umass.edu/cranberry)

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## Final Keeping Quality Forecast

*Leela Uppala and Peter Jeranyama*

The final keeping quality forecast is **GOOD**.

We calculated 7 points out of a possible 16 to arrive at this keeping quality forecast for the 2020 Massachusetts cranberry crop. This score is based on (1) the total of sunshine hours for February for the present year is less than the 50-year average for that month (143 hours), 1 point. (2) the total of sunshine hours for March for the present year is more than the 50-year average for that month (179 hours), 2 points. (3) the average temperature for April for the present year at Middleboro is below the April threshold of 44°F, 2 points. (4) the total precipitation for April for the present year is less than the average of East Wareham and Middleboro (6.70 inches), 1 point. (5) the total precipitation for May for the present year is less than the average of East Wareham and Middleboro (3.20 inches), 1 point.

### Implications

You may be able to reduce the number of fruit rot fungicide applications if your answer is yes to at least one of the following criteria. If a particular cranberry bed:

- Held late water in spring 2020.
- is planted with resistant varieties.
- Had a low fruit rot incidence in 2019.

Even if you answered YES to one of the above three criteria, you should not reduce the number of fruit rot fungicide applications:

- For newly planted beds.
- Beds with excess vine growth that prevents rapid drying.

Please note:

- Do not use a fungicide at less than the registered label rate.
- Proper timing and uniform coverage of fungicides are critical for effective fruit rot management.
- Above normal sunshine hours during June, July and August (especially July) have been associated with good or better quality than predicted. Less than normal sunshine hours during these three months may result in keeping quality not as good as predicted.

## Weed Management

**Callisto Concentrated Sprays for Poison Ivy.** Callisto does not manage poison ivy or other tough woody weeds when it is applied by chemigation, but spot treatments of concentrated Callisto have been shown to control poison ivy. Applications of concentrated Callisto solutions for poison ivy control can go out anytime now. It is most effective to treat twice in each year and to treat multiple years in a row depending on the response. The second spot treatment should be made when the leaves have fully regrown (usually about 3 weeks), without allowing too much time for the poison ivy to recover the reserves it used to make the new leaves. The Special Local Needs (24c; SLN) that permits the use the concentrated solution is only available for Callisto; the other generic mesotrione products do NOT have this special labeling and cannot be used in this fashion. Only two applications of mesotrione are permitted per year. Spot treatments of Callisto count as an application.

**Grass Herbicides.** Grass herbicides can also be applied anytime grasses are actively growing, in accordance to timing restrictions for each product type. This window can vary widely by grass species. If you are targeting poverty grass, the rapid growth period typically starts in early to mid-July (BEFORE it makes the seed stalks that you can easily see). Once the grass starts to flower/make seeds, the herbicides are not as effective. Intensity products have SLNs that expand the application window compared to other clethodim products, like Select. Select cannot be applied between hook and fruit set, but Intensity products can. Select cannot be chemigated; Intensity products can. The only window of concern with clethodim products is roughneck. This is the growth stage that is associated with petal fusing. Poast (sethoxydim) cannot be chemigated. The grass herbicides are not effective without adding in the recommended surfactant!

**Spray during bloom?** Growers have asked about making herbicide applications during bloom. In general, if you don't have to spray during bloom, that is always best. However, herbicide efficacy is often based on growth stage of the weed, so if you need to spray during bloom, you can usually do so. We have not experienced issues with using the grass herbicides or Callisto during bloom. The biggest issue is usually NOT the herbicide but the ADJUVANT you are using. Any questions, please call or email.

**Have you used Zeus?** We would be grateful to receive feedback from growers who have used Zeus for moss control (or other weeds). Please call us (508-295-2212 x21 or x47) or email ([hsandler@umass.edu](mailto:hsandler@umass.edu) and [kghantou@umass.edu](mailto:kghantou@umass.edu)).

## Cranberry Station News

- Just as a reminder that the Station is currently closed to the public to reduce person-to-person exposure. **We are working remotely.** You can reach any of us by phone by calling the Station (508-295-2212) for the phone extension directory or by email, you can find our individual contact information at: <https://ag.umass.edu/cranberry/faculty-staff> .
- You can access the **weekly IPM message** updates on our website: <http://ag.umass.edu/cranberry/ipm-message> or by calling the station, 508-295-2212, x 60. The message will typically update on Fridays. If a pest situation requires a non-Friday update, the message will always indicate when it was last updated.
- **We are still looking for participants!** We are working with Dr. Juan Zalapa from the Cranberry Genetics and Genomics Lab (USDA-ARS, Department of Horticulture, University of Wisconsin) to conduct a survey of ‘Stevens’ planted in Massachusetts to get a better idea of the genetic make-up of beds considered to be ‘Stevens’. If you would like to participate in this study, or for more information, please contact **Katie (508-295-2212 x47)** [kghantou@umass.edu](mailto:kghantou@umass.edu). We can sample multiple beds per farm or grower if you have large differences in yield between beds.
- We would be grateful to get your feedback on efficacy and crop safety with **Zeus and Kerb** in 2020. Please contact Hilary (508-292-2212 x 21 or [hsandler@umass.edu](mailto:hsandler@umass.edu) ) or Katie (508-295-2212 x 47) and let us know.
- **The Station no longer has a post office box.** Please send all correspondence to:

UMass Cranberry Station  
1 State Bog Road  
East Wareham, MA 02358

Stay safe and be well,



**Hilary A. Sandler, Station Director**



**CRANBERRY STATION  
NEWSLETTER**

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