



**UMass  
Extension**

# Cranberry Station Newsletter

**APRIL 2013**

UMASS CRANBERRY STATION

1 STATE BOG ROAD

P.O. BOX 569

EAST WAREHAM, MA 02538

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

## Winter Moth Update!!

Winter moth larvae have just hatched in **blueberry**. They are tiny, about 2 mm, and are very hard to see. They feed inside the blueberry bud and often do substantial damage without being seen. Winter moth larvae are NOT on the cranberry bogs YET!! The cranberry bud is still very tight and does NOT provide a food resource for winter moth. Until we get some significant warm weather, and move to at least cabbage head stage, cranberry is not a good host. It would be wise to be ready to thoroughly sweep your bog the first week of May.

The best control options for winter moth are Avaunt (not on flow-throughs), Delegate, and Intrepid. If you have a history of bad winter moth, or saw moths flying in November and December near your bog, you should consider a prophylactic spray in early May. Damage may be done to the developing tips before populations can be detected.

**MARTHA SYLVIA, ENTOMOLOGY, UMASS  
CRANBERRY STATION**

There is excellent information, an updated winter moth fact sheet and links available through the UMass Landscape, Nursery and Urban Forestry Website: (<http://extension.umass.edu/landscape/>) and the link to the landscape message gives scouting information by region including winter moth hatch info <http://extension.umass.edu/landscape/landscape-message>

**Dr. Carolyn DeMoranville, Station Director**

## FROST SEASON IS HERE!

This week, I will be working with CCCGA to scout and determine bud tolerance. The CCCGA frost warning service is set to commence on April 15. By Friday, April 12, the first set of tolerance stage photos will be posted to the Cranberry Station website. Each week or so, a new set of photos will be added. Go to our home page, [www.umass.edu/cranberry](http://www.umass.edu/cranberry), to find a link to the photos and to watch for notices as we add to the collections through the spring. As of April 10, we are seeing greening of the cranberry leaves but buds remain tight and dormant in external appearance. Cut buds from early varieties are showing internal greening.

## A GOOD YEAR FOR LATE WATER?

With the poor preliminary keeping quality forecast, this is a good year to consider late water. Most bogs are showing little stress this spring and if this is the case for your bog, it may be a good late water candidate. Floods should go on about April 15 (later on the Cape). See the Chart Book section for late water do's and don'ts, including interaction with frost management. Also see the presentation given at the CCCGA winter meeting regarding use of floods in pest management - you can find it on Scholarworks at this link: [http://scholarworks.umass.edu/cranberry\\_community\\_presentations/](http://scholarworks.umass.edu/cranberry_community_presentations/).

## WORKER PROTECTION TRAININGS 2-4 PM

Worker Protection Trainings for cranberry workers in the handler category will be offered in 2013: April 24, May 29, and June 26. There is a \$5 fee to cover the cost of the WPS training manual. If you have a pesticide license, you do not need this training.

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

## PRELIMINARY KEEPING QUALITY FORECAST

As of April 1, there is only 1 point out of a possible 10 that favor keeping quality for the 2013 Massachusetts cranberry crop. The sole point was awarded for favorable sunshine hours in February. 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.

This should be a good year for holding late water because we have had a more typical winter, avoiding severe temperatures along with adequate water for the winter flood and sufficient snow cover over long stretches of time. Minimal ice sanding was done this winter due to a lack of sufficient ice thickness beyond a few days. Sanding is one of the best cultural control strategies, as it covers overwintering inoculum, so the lack of sanding resulted in a minimal reductive effect. At any rate, expect the worst regarding fruit rot in what appears to be a much more typical growing season than we had in 2012. If you have any questions, please contact me (extension 18) or Carolyn (extension 25).

**FRANK CARUSO,**  
**PLANT PATHOLOGY**

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