



August 4, 2020

1 State Bog Road
East Wareham, MA 02538

508-295-2212

ag.umass.edu/cranberry

Vol. 21:5

Pesticide Safety Zoom online Meetings!

We have rescheduled our April Pesticide Safety Meeting to online via Zoom for 2 nights in August. Agenda will be different for each night. We already have 30 growers signed up from April. If you want to attend, need 4 contact hours (2 credits for each night), or just want to get the latest updates, please see below on how to register.

NIGHT ONE: Tuesday August 18th 6-8PM (2 credits, \$25)

- 5:45 Check in ONLINE
- 6:00 WPS, Safety and Pesticide Restrictions in 2020 – Marty Sylvia
- 6:30 Intensity, Callisto, Zeus, and Poison Ivy – Katie Ghantous
- 7:00 IPM for Tick Management – Blake Dinius, Plymouth County Extension
- 7:30 Chemigation Review – John Mason, Slocum-Gibbs and Grower
- 7:50 Compare Your Pesticide Usage? – Marty Sylvia

NIGHT TWO: Thursday August 20th 6-8PM (2 credits, \$25)

- 5:45 Check in ONLINE
- 6:00 Fumigants, SLNs, Roundup, Japanese Knotweed, and Kerb update – Hilary Sandler
- 6:30 2020 Insect Review – Anne Averill
- 7:00 2020 Pathology Review – Leela Uppala
- 7:30 Newest Insects of the day (scale, golden casebearer) - Marty Sylvia

It is best if you have a computer where you can watch the presentations from the comfort of your own home. But if that is not an option, there will be a space (with very limited availability), where you can sit, socially distant, and watch via projected computer.

TO REGISTER: Please contact Robyn Hardy, rmhardy@umass.edu or 508-295-2212 x10 (leave a message for a call back) and let her know how you will be attending and your Zoom capabilities:

NIGHT ONE (\$25) NIGHT TWO (\$25) BOTH (\$50)

COMPUTER at home	Zoom tested	not Zoom tested	Zoom tutor session needed
IPAD	Zoom tested	not Zoom tested	Zoom tutor session needed
SMARTPHONE	Zoom tested	not Zoom tested	Zoom tutor session needed

NONE OF THE ABOVE help me!

Mail checks to UMass Cranberry Station, 1 State Bog Road, East Wareham, MA 02538. Once registered, a Zoom link will be sent to you.

PHYTOPHTHORA is having a heyday!!

If you have a diagnosed area, now is a good time for a fungicide application! Several of the dieback areas that we all have been blaming on scale infestations are turning out to be possible Phytophthora root and runner rot disease instead! (Some are still scale spots too.) If you have a history of Phytophthora, then maybe it's back!

PHYTOPHTHORA

- Phytophthora root rot is caused by soilborne pathogens, *Phytophthora* spp., which generally thrive in poorly drained soils.
- Phytophthora infects root tissues, causing poor new root development, necrosis and runner rot. Affected roots cannot uptake water and nutrients resulting in dieback of plants. Phytophthora also increases fruit rot incidence due to stress on the plants.
- Improving the drainage is extremely important for mitigating Phytophthora root rot. Do this before any chemicals are considered in a management plan against this disease.
- Dieback areas in low spots should receive a uniform addition of sand to get the areas up to grade with the remainder of the bed.

CURRENT CONDITIONS

- Recently, we have been seeing symptoms resurface in recovered areas, most likely because of this year's long, cold spring. We suspect that the numerous frost nights observed in April and May resulted in waterlogged areas on several bogs, and increased likelihood of Phytophthora root rot (if Phytophthora was introduced or already present in the bog).
- Many renovated beds have quickly developed the disease and some of the newer hybrids seem particularly susceptible to Phytophthora.
- In the past, Basamid fumigation prior to planting was recommended for renovations that had a history of Phytophthora infestation in the soil. New EPA regulations require an EPA fumigant training to use this chemical and this strategy has become prohibitively expensive.
- Frank Caruso always said that it just takes a few infected roots to initiate and spread the disease to a new location. Water can move spores from infected to healthy plants, within and among the bogs.

TREATMENT OR MANAGEMENT

- Registered fungicides (foliar application of phosphonates or soil application of phenylamides) should be applied ONLY after improving drainage. Multiple applications per season may be needed until vine recovery is visible. These applications can revitalize canopy by encouraging root growth and help the plant increase uptake of water and nutrients.
- Examples of Phosphonate fungicides (also called Phosphites): Phiticide and Rampart, (also Phostrol, ProPhyt, Fosphite, Fungi-phite, and K-phite). Aliette is in the same grouping but is a fosetyl-al chemistry.
- Examples of Phenylamide fungicides: Ridomil Gold SL, Ultra Flourish, Ridomil Gold GR.
- Phosphonate fungicides are less expensive (\$16-18/A at highest rate) compared to the Phenylamide fungicides (\$70-200/A). Most of the phosphonate fungicides also offer the flexibility of multiple applications (at 14 to 30-day intervals) that can be applied until

suitable control is achieved (less than 7 days Pre-harvest interval). Please check the label of each product for specific details.

- Previous recommendations targeted spring and fall applications, but climatic conditions, cool springs, long frost seasons, late harvest timing, have made applications at the right timing next to impossible.
- Treatment should be considered for when the vine is actively growing roots, in June, July and August. If you are unable to make an application in the summer, you may consider an application in the fall. However, keep in mind that this will probably only be effective in early harvested beds or if we have a warm, extended fall season.

You can drop samples off at the station to have them tested, contact Leela Uppala (334-728-1025)

Sample collection instructions: If you suspect **Phytophthora root rot**, samples should be collected from the margins of the affected areas. Collect at least 40 stressed vines adjacent to the dead vines with roots attached. Roots are the most important part of diagnosing this disease. If several spots show symptoms in a single bog, sample from at least 10 areas and combine them into one bag. Make sure you keep samples from different beds/cultivars in separate bags.

Sample drop off instructions: To reduce person-to-person exposure under the current global pandemic, we request that you notify Leela of your expected time of arrival by phone (text or call 334-728-1025) or email (suppala@umass.edu) at least 1 day before bringing samples. We will arrange a cooler with sample intake forms outside the Cranberry Station's lab building.

Marty Sylvia, Leela Uppala, and Erika Saalau Rojas

Northeast SARE Partnership Grant

The UMass Cranberry Station is proud to be a recipient of a Northeast SARE Partnership Grant Award for \$24,828. This is for a research project evaluating new hybrid cranberry cultivars with improved fruit quality, yield and disease resistance. The Partnership Grant program funds projects conducted by agricultural service providers working in partnership with farmers to encourage the understanding and widespread use of sustainable techniques, add to our collective understanding of sustainable agriculture, and strengthen working partnerships between farmers and farm service providers. The project aims to increase the profitability and sustainability of the Massachusetts cranberry industry by evaluating 12 new hybrid cultivars with improved fruit quality, yield, and disease resistance. Data collected will be used in the decision process making by cranberry growers. The partner farmer for the project is Keith Mann. Keith is an experienced third-generation cranberry grower at Mann Farms in Buzzards Bay, MA. The project leader is Giverson Mupambi. Feel free reach out to him at gmupambi@umass.edu for more information.

Applications of Intensity for Grass Control

Intensity and Intensity One can be used as spot treatments or chemigated (via Special Local Needs or 24c label) for control of many grasses. Both of these products have the same active ingredient, clethodim, but the concentration is different for each product. Intensity has 26.4% a.i. and Intensity One has 12.6% a.i. So, the rate per acre is also different. When chemigating, you use 6-8 fl. oz/A with Intensity and 9-16 fl. oz/A with Intensity One; with spot-treatments, use 0.5 oz with Intensity or 0.65 oz with Intensity One per gallon water for mid-range rate. Another difference is that the label (cranberry section) recommends a Crop Oil Concentrate (COC) with Intensity and a nonionic surfactant (NIS) for Intensity One.

To get good control, you need to:

- *Use the right herbicide rate
- *Add the right adjuvant at the right rate
 - *Target only grasses
- *Spray at the right time
- *Spray more than once for tough grasses

Both Intensity products will control annual and perennial grasses; they will NOT control sedges or broadleaf weeds. Treated grasses will show a reduction in both vigor and growth; usually yellowing will occur. Symptoms are usually visible 7 to 14 days after application, depending on environmental conditions.

You need to check the label to confirm the best height range for the grass you are targeting. Most grasses need to be treated when they are between 2 and 6 inches tall; you will need to treat some grasses when they are even shorter. If you spray after the plants have flowered, you will get less control.

Applications made to stressed grasses may give poorer results. Efficacy can be improved if applications are made shortly after a good irrigation. Multiple applications are often needed to get really good control. You need to allow at least 14 days between applications.

Any questions, call Hilary (x21) or Katie (x43).

Aquatic Plant Survey

An **Aquatic Plant Survey** will be sent out to assess the presence and impact of aquatic weeds on your farm. This information will allow us to better address your management and control needs for aquatic weeds. You will receive the survey in the same way (email or snail mail) you receive our newsletter.

We thank you in advance for your response!!

Hilary Sandler and Emma Wick

Cranberry Station News

- Just as a reminder that the Station is still 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>.
- **Do you have dodder?** As part of a project to better understand the biology of dodder, we would like to collect infected cranberry and weed stems post-harvest and throughout the winter. Please call Hilary x21 or Katie x43 if you have an infestation on your farm that we could use. We would like to mark the areas NOW and then come back in the fall and winter to collect samples.
- A **Zeus Performance Survey** will be sent out early fall to get your feedback on the use of Zeus on your farm. Please be on the lookout for this. Thank you ahead of time for your response!!
- Several of you offered to allow us to collect vines samples to better understand the range of genetic diversity of Stevens vines. Unfortunately, we will need to postpone this study to the 2021 season. We will reach out next year to conduct our collaborative study with Juan Zulapa (USDA-University of Wisconsin).
- The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs request that residents of Massachusetts who receive or have received an **unsolicited package of seeds** should not plant the seeds and should contact state plant regulatory officials. For more information: <https://www.mass.gov/news/massachusetts-residents-asked-to-report-receipt-of-any-unsolicited-packages-of-seeds>.
- **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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OFFICIAL BUSINESS