



Cranberry Station Newsletter

JUNE 4, 2001

UMASS CRANBERRY EXPERIMENT STATION

1 STATE BOG ROAD

P.O. BOX 569

EAST WAREHAM, MA 02538

<http://www.umass.edu/umext/programs/agro/cranberries>

Scouting Report

First generation **black-headed fireworm** (BHF) larvae and moderate to severe damage have been reported over the past week. We are quickly approaching (some bogs may already be at) the end of first generation larvae. If you are still picking up larvae in your sweeps, you should consider treating with SpinTor or Diazinon immediately. Opt for Diazinon if you are treating for BHF larvae only. If you also have infestations of Sparganothis fruitworm, SpinTor would be your best option.

Infestations can move very fast (that is, they move quickly from the susceptible larval stage to the nonsusceptible pupal stage)! Remember that even as BHF larvae mature, they remain very small; they never get large like cutworm larvae. It is easier to target the first generation than the second generation. Keep in mind that your populations may already be in the pupal stage and that, if this is the case, you should focus on controlling the second generation. This generation typically appears in July during bloom. Pheromone traps should be used to time insecticide sprays against the second generation.

Several other options are available for managing BHF populations (providing first generation larvae are still present): Confirm 2F or sprayable pheromone. Confirm takes a long time to show results; you should really be aiming for a quick takedown at this point. You may also opt to use the sprayable pheromone to disrupt mating of the moths. Again, this is not a fast-acting option. The sprayable pheromone works best on low infestations. Moderate or severe populations will probably need multiple approaches to achieve management. Several other organophosphate insecticides, other than Diazinon, are registered for use against BHF. Sevin (carbaryl) is also labeled for BHF management.

Cranberry weevil populations are certainly out, often in very high numbers. It is not unusual to have 20+ weevils per sweep set. The weevils have moved from

the blueberries to the cranberries, so **now is the time to treat**. Most growers have had success with Lorsban in the past. However, reports of Lorsban failures are increasing, especially in the Buzzard's Bay-Marion-Wareham area. If you know that your populations are resistant to Lorsban, your options are very limited. You may want to treat with 6-12 oz. Pyrenone alone or include the Pyrenone in with your Lorsban application.

We have also heard about infestation of **green spanworm** in several locations. The Bt products will control spanworm populations while the larvae are small. **Brown spanworm moths** have been spotted flying about on the bog. Sprays should be targeted against larvae, not adult moths. Be on the lookout for brown spanworm infestations during bloom. Early hatchlings are very small and will tend to cling to the rim of your sweep net. Be sure to inspect carefully. Remember the action threshold (AT) for brown and green spanworms is an average of 18 larvae per sweep set. Other spanworms may be larger and may warrant a slightly lower AT. Big cranberry spanworm has an AT of 4.5 larvae per sweep set.

Gypsy moth larvae have also been reported. Check for patchy infestations that can be spot-treated. Look along the bog edges and edges facing the uplands that may have infested trees. Take infestations seriously; the larvae will chew out the terminal bud and cause severe damage. These insects are much harder to kill as they grow in size.

Leafminer damage in older leaves has been observed. If you see a lot of leaf drop on your bog, do not necessarily assume it is from winter injury. Inspect the dropped leaves for signs of tunneling. We do not recommend specific treatment for leafminer at this time. However, it is good to know whether the leaf drop is from winter injury or insect damage. If you have significant leaf drop, do not skip your spring fertilizer dose. SulPoMag (or similar materials) at 100-200 pounds per acre may aid recovery.

Anne Averill, Marty Sylvia, and Hilary Sandler

FINAL KEEPING QUALITY FORECAST

Thank goodness for the drought that began in April where no measurable rainfall occurred for 33 days. Rainfall in April accounted for our **only point** of the sixteen possible keeping quality points. Consequently, the June 1, 2001 Keeping Quality Forecast is **VERY POOR**. Both April and May were warmer than desired and the May rainfall exceeded the desired amount for additional points.

As a result, this certainly was a good year to hold late water and I know many of you did so on your acreage. You will need to be very careful with your fungicide usage, particularly if the fruit is destined for fresh market. Fruit quality will be sacrificed if you reduce your fungicide use drastically.

If the summer months are hotter than usual, if there is drought stress, or conversely, if it is a very wet season, we will not see any improvement in the forecast. Things will remain as predicted.

If you have any questions with fruit rot management, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Frank L. Caruso
Plant Pathology

Updated Phone Extension List:

| | |
|----|----------------------|
| 10 | Deb Cannon |
| 12 | Yvonne Foote |
| 13 | Dan Shumaker |
| 14 | Phil Bailey |
| 15 | Richard Ramsey |
| 16 | Jane Mika |
| 18 | Frank Caruso |
| 20 | Marty Sylvia |
| 21 | Hilary Sandler |
| 23 | Anne Averill |
| 24 | Paul Lopes |
| 25 | Carolyn DeMoranville |
| 27 | Joey Mason |

Twilight Workshop Cranberry Experiment Station Bog Side, June 27, 2001 5:00 - 7:00 PM

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|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 5:00 – 5:10 | C. DeMoranville | Opening remarks |
| 5:10 – 5:30 | Anne Averill | Fruitworm update |
| 5:30 – 5:50 | Frank Caruso | Fruit Rot update |
| 5:50 – 6:10 | Hilary Sandler | Post-emergence weed control update |
| 6:10 – 6:30 | C. DeMoranville | Fertilizer update |
| 6:30 – 6:45 | General Questions & Answers | |
| 6:45 – 7:00 | Closing remarks and paper work | |

Carolyn DeMoranville,
Assistant Extension Professor, Acting Director

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