



UMassAmherst
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Healthy Fruit

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Prepared by the University of Massachusetts Fruit Team

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[Orchard Radar for west-central Massachusetts \(Belchertown\)](http://pronewengland.org/content/AllModels/Mamodel/RadarMa-belchertown.htm)

<http://pronewengland.org/content/AllModels/Mamodel/RadarMa-belchertown.htm>

[Orchard Radar for eastern Massachusetts \(Waltham\)](http://pronewengland.org/content/AllModels/Mamodel/RadarMa-waltham.htm)

<http://pronewengland.org/content/AllModels/Mamodel/RadarMa-waltham.htm>

MFGA Summer Meeting and Field Day – UMass Cold Spring Orchard R & E Center

The Annual Summer Meeting of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association will be held at the UMass Cold Spring Orchard Research & Education Center in Belchertown on **July 14**. The morning program will begin at **10AM** and be comprised of an orchard tour highlighting current research projects on pest management, tree training, varieties, rootstocks, growth control, and fruit thinning. A spectacular barbeque lunch will be served at approximately 12:30PM at a cost of \$10 per person (pre-registration required). The afternoon speaking program (about 1 hour) will include updates on harvest labor and MFGA development, a tribute to Ron Prokopy, and an educational session on flyspeck and sooty blotch (by Dan Cooley). Pesticide-license certification credit will be offered. For more information, call Wes Autio at (413) 545-2963.

Insects

Though we're in a lull between curculio and **apple maggot**, you may want to hang red sticky-ball traps this week, just in case they start flying early! Certainly they should be up by July 1.

Aphids are building up, but predators are building up right along with them. In recent years, we have seen virtually no situations, even on young trees, where aphids have built up to uncontrolled levels, but it's always good to keep an eye on things.

This week is a good opportunity to look for **leafminer** parasitism - carefully opening the mine, look for either a brownish 1/4 inch long slender tube (healthy leafminer pupa) or a white 1/8 inch long cylinder (*Pholetesor ornigis* wasp parasite cocoon). Parasitism is as much as 50% in some monitored blocks.

We've almost reached the **oblique-banded leafroller** (OBLR) egg hatch degree-day threshold (340 DD's) from first trap capture in Worcester County orchards. For growers with OP-resistant OBLR (and basically if they are a problem, they are OP-resistant), timing is very important because the available controls are expensive and short-lived! It's better to err on the side of a bit late than too early; if you're too early, the material will disappear without having done anything, whereas if you're late, you'll get at least some control. Experience with SpinTor is that it controls quite large OBLR larvae. Bt sprays are another option, however, sprays need to start early. Although too late to hang this year, pheromone traps are the best way to time sprays for OBLR.

Diseases

A Wet Season? Without getting into last year's weather records and actually making the comparison, it's not clear whether this May and June have been any wetter than last year's. But there's no doubt that we have had plenty of scab infection periods. By now, scab that got started during May and June will be visible.

As said a few weeks ago, scab eradication options are limited. At this time of year, captan is a good fungicide choice, because it's relatively inexpensive and it offers some early protection from sooty blotch and flyspeck. Full-strength captan in hot weather can also keep scab from spreading. It's a good way to eradicate a scab problem, primarily because it doesn't let new infections start.

If the problem is serious, then follow the full-strength captan after 7 to 10 days with a Flint or Sovran plus half-strength captan application. The Flint or Sovran will do a good job of protecting the most important part of the tree, the fruit, and the captan will continue to keep the epidemic from spreading. It will also reduce the chances of resistance developing to the strobilurines. Captan plus a strobilurine will also do a great job on flyspeck and sooty blotch.

As terminals set, the chances for scab to spread decrease. The mature leaves are less susceptible to infection, and the old lesions eventually stop producing new spores.

Correction: Last week's Healthy Fruit mentioned Benlate as a control option for fabraea leaf spot on pears. Benlate is no longer available. Also, be aware of the 77 day PHI interval when using EBDC fungicides (as recommended) to control fabraea.

HACCP for the Juice Industry

A. step-by-step short course to help with a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point Plan will be offered on July 6-7, 2004 in Rutland, VT. To register, please send your name, address, email address, home and work telephone numbers, and a list of products you process along with the registration fee of \$200, made out to "UConn" to Diane Wright Hirsch at: New Haven County Extension Center, 305 Skiff Street, North Haven, CT 06473. For more information, contact Diane Wright Hirsch (203) 407-3163 or Terry Bradshaw at (802) 656-0490.

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