



Healthy Fruit

Volume 13, 2005

Prepared by the University of Massachusetts Fruit Team

Issue 1, April 5, 2005

Current DD Accumulations

Location	Base 43F	Base 50F
Belchertown, UMass CSO observed (01/01/05 – 04/03/05)	49	11

Current Bud Stages

Location	McIntosh apple	Honeycrisp apple	Pear	Redhaven peach	Cavalier sweet cherry
Belchertown UMass CSO (04/04/05)	dormant	dormant	dormant	dormant	dormant

Current bud stages also available on UMass Fruit Advisor, <http://www.umass.edu/fruitadvisor/>

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Date	Meeting/Event	Location	Time	Information
April 9	Extension Aquaculture Workshop	119 Ag Engineering UMass Amherst	9 AM	Craig Hollingsworth 413-545-1055
April 12	Fruit Team Twilight Meeting	Clarkdale Fruit Farms 330 Upper Rd. W Deerfield, MA	5:30 PM	Jon Clements 413-478-7219
April 13	Fruit Team Twilight Meeting*	Brookdale Fruit Farm 36 Broad St. (Rte. 130) Hollis, NH	5:30 PM	Jon Clements 413-478-7219 George Hamilton 603-641-6060
April 14	Fruit Team Twilight Meeting**	Keown Orchards 9 McClellan Rd. Sutton, MA	5:30 PM	Jon Clements 413-478-7219 Heather Faubert 401-874-2750

Two pesticide recertification credits offered at each Fruit Team Twilight meeting. Please be on time to receive credit

* In cooperation with New Hampshire Fruit Growers' Assoc.

** In cooperation with Rhode Island Fruit Growers' Assoc.

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Sorry, no more March Message

I know we all looked forward to Ron Prokopy's 'Annual March Message to Massachusetts Fruit Growers,' however, with Ron's passing we decided to let it go with him. Ron had a unique style and put a lot of effort into the publication. We felt, as a fruit team currently without an entomologist, we simply did not have the expertise to duplicate it. I've had several growers ask me about this, and if more feel it is important to have this kind of update, let us know. Meanwhile, we will attempt to keep you informed on entomology and IPM via 'Healthy Fruit,' other publications (see enclosed 2005 'Update' to the 2003-04 New England Apple Pest Management Guide, and twilight meetings. J. Clements

2005 'Update' to the 2003-04 New England Apple Pest Management Guide

The 2005 'Update' to the 2003-04 New England Apple Pest Management Guide is attached. (Or on-line, <http://www.umass.edu/fruitadvisor/NEAPMG/index.htm>) It is a result of review of new products and/or product label changes by New England tree fruit specialists. (Thanks in particular to Lorraine Los of CT for doing insect and mite management, Dan Cooley for disease management, and Lorraine Berkett of VT for editing and producing.) We attempted to make it as complete as possible, however, be aware that some new products may be pending state registration and label/recommendation changes are ongoing. Always consult the current label before using. J. Clements

Farm pond aquaculture workshop

Many farm ponds in Massachusetts can be used to grow trout in cage culture. Fish cages are simple to build, require limited maintenance and provide an introduction to the possibilities of fish farming. A workshop to learn about cage culture will be held on April 9 from 9 am to 12 pm in Room 119, Agricultural Engineering Building, UMass Amherst. The workshop will cover pond characteristics, permit regulations, fish species, cage construction and aquaculture maintenance. Training will be conducted by Keith Wilda, aquaculturist for UMass Extension and Australis Aquaculture.

The workshop is **free to anyone who pre-registers**. Walk-in participants are welcome, but will be charged \$10.

Paul Catanzaro of Chesterfield MA wrote about his experiences with cage culture. His report can be found on the UMass Extension Aquaculture website at:

http://www.umass.edu/aquaculture/projects/cage_culture.htm

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Individuals with appropriate ponds can join the UMass Extension Farm Pond project this summer. Growers will receive testing of their pond water, materials and instructions to build a trout cage, and 100 fingerling trout in return for a \$100 fee and by agreeing to complete a survey at the end of the project.

Farm ponds need to be a minimum of 8 feet deep, minimum of 5000 square feet of surface area (100' x 50'), have vegetation in or around ponds edge, be spring or brook fed year round and meet water quality standards, determined by water testing performed by the project. A questionnaire is available upon request to help determine whether a farm pond is suitable for trout growth.

To pre-register, call Craig Hollingsworth at (413) 545-1055 or email chollingsworth@umext.umass.edu and leave a mailing address and other contact information.

Extension Floriculture Program Receives Grant

The University of Massachusetts Extension Floriculture Program in cooperation with University of Connecticut Extension Greenhouse Program has been awarded \$83,000 from Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) to implement a “Sustainable Greenhouse Health Maintenance Program” for farmers in southern New England (MA, CT, RI). This three year program beginning in April will include hands-on training, diagnostics, pest management and cultural recommendations, an early alert system, sustainable greenhouse workshops, farms tours or twilight meetings, and base-line and post-project evaluation surveys.

Tina Smith and Paul Lopes (University of Massachusetts) and Leanne Pundt (University of Connecticut) will work with growers to prevent problems in greenhouses, identify pests, nutritional and cultural problems and to use sustainable greenhouse practices. Information gathered throughout the growing season will be disseminated to growers throughout southern New England (MA, CT, RI) via website, email and fax as an early alert system.

As part of this grant we will distribute “New England Greenhouse Update”, timely information collected from growers in MA, CT and RI which will be posted on a website. To receive NE Greenhouse Update via email please send in the registration form below or email the information to: tsmith@umext.umass.edu

Name _____

Company _____

Email Address _____

Mail this form to NE Greenhouse Update, UMass Extension, Rm 203 French Hall, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 0100. For more information, contact Tina Smith at 413-545-5306, tsmith@umext.umass.edu Paul Lopes at 508-295-2212 ext. 24, lopes@umext.umass.edu or Leanne Pundt at 860-626-6240, leanne.pundt@uconn.edu. T. Smith