



Healthy Fruit, Vol. 30, No. 19, September 20, 2022

Prepared by the University of Massachusetts Amherst Fruit Team

Jon Clements, Editor

## Upcoming meetings

December 13-15, 2022. New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference. Manchester, NH.

<https://newenglandvfc.org/>

## The way I see it

Jon Clements

Not much to see here, we dodged a bit of a bullet with Fiona, instead we will get a late fall-like weekend. As a risk management strategy, apples can't be harvested off the trees fast enough now. Not seeing anything terribly out of the ordinary regarding maturity, in fact apples seem to be holding up quite well particularly where a rigid season-long fungicide program was in place. Or you used ReTain which seems to be working just fine. See [apple maturity](#) report below.

For those of you specifically growing (hard) cider apples, if you can take 5-10 minutes to fill out this survey we would appreciate it. We mean the Universities of Vermont, Maine, and Massachusetts who are wrapping up a SARE grant 'Northeast Cider Apple Project.' Link to the survey here...<https://go.uvm.edu/necidersurvey>

## Entomology





Jaime Pinero

Ed. note: Jaime says no entomology update this week. I suspect his team will compile a pest management season in review later.


## Horticulture (apple maturity report)

Jon Clements

**All observations from UMass Orchard, Belchertown, MA unless otherwise noted.** Target maturity numbers: red color, >50%; firmness, >14 lbs.; soluble solids, >12; DA, 0.60 to 0.40 for Honeycrisp, 0.65 for Gala, 1.00 for Golden Delicious, 1.15 to 1.00 for Red Delicious (higher DA = more "green"); starch index, 4-6.

2022 Date	Variety	Drop	Diameter (inches)	Color (% red)	Firmness (lbs.)	Brix	Starch Index	DA Meter	Comments	Picture
9/16	Marshall McIntosh	Yes, some	3.1	75+	12	12.9	4-7	NA	Need to be harvested	
9/19	Rubymac McIntosh	few	3.1	99	13	12.9	4-5-6	NA	These 'Macs' hold up quite well, probably had ReTain	
9/19	Rogers Red McIntosh	some	3.2	75	14	13.1	4-5-6	NA	Harvest anytime on red color, probably did NOT have ReTain	
9/19	Cortland	Few (push-off?)	3.4	80 striped	16	12.6	1-2-3	NA	Quite tart, does not starch test well, being PYO's, ReTain?	

9/19	Empire	none	3.0	90	17.5	12.2	3.5	NA	Wait until next week	
9/19	Macoun	Some push-off	3.1	60 barely	16	11.9	2-5.5	NA	Green wait at least a week	
9/19	Honeycrisp	nil	3.4	60	15.5	14.6	6-7	0.56	Likely had ReTain, pick based on color, wrap up this week, some rots	
9/19	Morning Mist Fuji	nil	3.4 large	75	12	13.7	6-7	0.81	Some water core, need to be harvested soon	
9/19	<a href="#">Pink Luster</a>	none	3.4	50	19	12.4	4-6	0.22	Yellow background, maturity does not advance fast, suitable for limited planting	
9/19	<a href="#">RubyRush</a>	none	3.8 very large	80	17	13.5	4-5?	0.29	Significant water core, very large, attractive apple, suitable for limited PYO	

9/19	Ambrosia	none	3.4	70	18.5	13.5	4	0.47	Give it a few more days, then harvest all at once, don't let get overmature	
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## Useful links

UMass Fruit Advisor: <http://umassfruit.com>

Network for Environment and Weather Applications (NEWA): <http://newa.cornell.edu>

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[The Jentsch Lab](#) (Peter Jentsch, Poma Tech)

[Acimovic Lab](#) (Srdjan Acimovic at Virginia Tech)

[Tree Fruit Horticulture Updates](#) (Sherif Sherif at Virginia Tech)

App store: Malusim (iOS and [Google Play](#)); Fruit Growth Model (iOS); Orchard Tools (iOS);

MyIPM (iOS and [Google Play](#)); Eco Fruit/Apple App (iOS and [Google Play](#)) Note: for iOS apps search the App Store on your iOS device.

The next (and last for 2022) Healthy Fruit will be published sometime in mid-October. In the meantime, feel free to contact any of the [UMass Fruit Team](#) if you have any fruit-related production questions.

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