



Healthy Fruit, Vol. 27, No. 20, October 1, 2019

Jon Clements, Author (unless otherwise noted) and Editor

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

[Pests and Pets, Managing Animals in the Packhouse](#)

When: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 from 5 pm to 7 pm

Where: UMass Agricultural Learning Center, 911 North Pleasant St., Amherst, MA 01003

Packhouse pests, including birds and rodents, affect produce quality and pose food safety risks. They can also be hard to get rid of! New food safety regulations require that covered farms have a pest control program to minimize food safety risks. Learn how to implement a pest control program on your farm and how to manage risks posed by even beloved animals, like cats and dogs.

SPEAKERS

- Amanda Brown, UMass Student Farm Enterprise - designing a new packhouse and getting certified by the Commonwealth Quality Program
- Hans Estrin, UVM Extension - considerations for building or retrofitting your wash/pack space with an eye toward food safety
- Natasha Wright, Braman Termite & Pest Elimination - tips and techniques from the professionals
- Jim Ward - How we control birds at Ward's Berry Farm
- Wally Czajkowski - How we control rodents at Plainville Farm

The meeting will be followed by a light dinner and time for questions and discussion

This event is FREE, but please RSVP so we can plan ahead for dinner

****1 pesticide recertification credit available****

REGISTER HERE: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pests-and-pets-managing-animals-in-the-packhouse-tickets-72589287513>

Contact Lisa McKeag at 413-545-1051 or lmckeag@umass.edu for more information

Registration is now open for the **2019 New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference and Trade Show**. The event will take place December 10-12, 2019 in Manchester NH.

This program was planned collaboratively by growers and extension professionals from throughout the region. It features over 30 educational sessions over 3 days, covering vegetable, berry and tree fruit crops and various special topics. Farmer-to-farmer sessions bring speakers and farmers together for informal discussion, and our extensive trade show has over 120 exhibitors.

Get more details, including the full program: <https://newenglandvfc.org/>
Register now! <https://newenglandvfc.org/registration>

We hope to see you there!

THE WAY I SEE IT

Jon Clements


Apple harvest is half-way over and we are reaching what I like to think is the end of harvest. Save a few exceptions like Cripps Pink and Goldrush among others. So, everyone should be too busy harvesting to read this anyway, but my maturity report follows. I've noted a nice increase in Brix, and red color remains very good overall. ReTain is keeping Honeycrisp on the trees very nicely. In a couple weeks we will have for you a Healthy Fruit with a summary of the pest management season.





HORTICULTURE





Jon Clements

Apple maturity report

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.

Date	Variety	Drop	Diameter (inches)	Color (% red)	Firmness (lbs.)	Brix	Starch Index	DA Meter	Comments	Picture
9/30	Cortland (Redcort?)	few	3.6	95	15	14.7	3-6	NA	Some bitter pit; may have had ReTain? Ready for harvest	

9/30	Honeycrisp	few	3.6	75	14	14.5	6-8	0.56	ReTain, very nice look	
9/30	Jonagold	nil	3.5	65	15	14.1	6-7	0.86	On the outside look kind of green despite starch index; I'd wait 5 days to pick	
9/30	Macoun	some	3.4	85	15	14	3-7	NA	Some water core, one very soft, not crazy about this apple	
9/30	Empire (Royal?)	none	3.1	95	17	12.7	5-6	NA	Ready to start harvest, on small side with lots of apples on the trees	

9/30	Golden Delicious	none	3.2	0-10	15	14	6-7	1.07	DA indicates they are green as does green side look; very nice red blush on these, very clean too, unsure of strain, should start harvest soon	
9/30	Liberty	none	3.1	95	18	13.4	4	NA	Liberty ready to start harvest, finish in a week	
9/30	Ambrosia	none	3	80	18	13.4	5	0.28	Lots of fruit scab; nearly ready to pick, but be ready to get them soon, short harvest window	
9/28	DS-41 (Pazazz)	nil	3.4	80	13	13.7	4-5	0.83	Variable maturity but ready for first pick	

INSECTS

Jaime Pinero

No insect update this week...

DISEASES

Liz Garofalo

No disease update this week...

SMALL FRUIT UPDATE

Sonia Schloemann

No Small Fruit Update this week... but, what do you think did this?



Answer: Racoons caught on camera

HAWKEYE'S CORNER (notes from the field)

Liz Garofalo

GUEST ARTICLE

No Guest Article this week...

FACEBOOK ME




Elizabeth W. Garofalo

19 hrs · 🌐

...


Ever wonder what I'm REALLY up to out in the orchards? Check out my new YouTube channel to find out!




YOUTUBE.COM


Cider Chick 007

I set out on a mission (insert corny Blues Brothers joke here) to hunt down...


 Maurice Tougas and 4 others

1 Share




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Write a comment...



USEFUL LINKS

[27th Annual March Message \(2019\) to Tree Fruit Growers \(Google Doc\)](#)

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

Scaffolds Fruit Journal: <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/scaffolds/>

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

Follow me on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/jmcextman>) and Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/jmcextman>)

[Acimovic Lab at Hudson Valley](#)

[Peter Jentsch's Blog](#)

The next (and last) Healthy Fruit will be published on or about October 15, 2019. It will consist of a 2019 season Massachusetts IPM report. In the meantime, feel free to contact any of the UMass Fruit Team if you have any fruit-related production questions.

Thank you sponsors...



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The Best Berry Plants since 1932

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