



Integrated Pest Management Program

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UConn Extension

Fruit Update: August 9, 2022

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Fruit Production & IPM

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A couple of points tonight:

1. In my travels this week I have seen stone fruit, strawberries, blueberry plants, and yes, even deep-rooted grape vines **flagging severely from a lack of water**. Other than the grape vines, these plants no longer have a crop on them, and I expect with water resources dwindling that water has been diverted to those plants that still have a crop to size up. However, if you do have available water to put on plants that are done cropping for the year you must do it otherwise you run the risk of sending those plants into the winter with few carbohydrate reserves in their roots, few fruit buds initiated (that happens this year for next year), weak and under stress. When that happens, your 2023 crop will be lighter than you want and many of those plants may not survive.



2. 2-spotted spider mite populations are still high in some blocks, close to threshold in some, and non-existent in others. The threshold in August is 7.5 mites/leaf. For trees under stress, you should reduce that threshold and get them under control ASAP.

3. Maintain fungicide coverage for rot. Yes we are dry, bone dry in much of the state, but high humidity and hot temperatures favor bitter rot infections along with the occasional passing shower. Captan plus another fungicide work best. Topsin M is not effective against bitter rot.

4. BMSB numbers continue to be very low in traps as well as visual observations in border trees and wood lines. No egg masses have been found as of yet. If you find egg masses please let me know so I can rear them out to see if they have been parasitized by the samurai wasp.

View the New England Tree Fruit Management Guide for the best materials to use at <https://netreefruit.org/apples/spray-table/9-summer-apple>

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