



## Integrated Pest Management Program

Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture  
UConn Extension

**Fruit Update: November 2, 2022**

*Mary Concklin, Extension Educator Emeritus*

*Fruit Production & IPM*

*UConn IPM Program Coordinator*

**Peach Leaf Curl:** Management of PLC is fairly simple – copper (or other fungicide) application in the fall after leaf drop and/or copper application in the spring prior to growth. In order to be effective, ALL the leaves need to be off the trees when the application is made in order to expose the pathogen in the buds. So don't rush it, leaves are dropping but some are still there. For materials and rates see <https://netreefruit.org/stone-fruit/peaches-nectarines/spray-table/7-fall-after-leaf-drop>. Copper materials have excellent efficacy, as does Bravo. No efficacy data is available for the other materials listed.



**Scab management:** For those blocks that had scab (not much this year luckily) and other foliar diseases, shredding leaves this fall speeds up the decomposition process. For leaves with scab, this will reduce the scab inoculum by as much as 85%. In blocks where scab and other foliar diseases were prevalent, after the leaves have fallen, spray them with feed grade urea at the rate of 44#/100 gals/acre. Doing both the mowing and urea application are highly recommended. If you run out of time this fall, consider doing this in the early spring.

**Dieing and dead twigs and branches on apples** are evidence of drought stress this year which gave the pathogen, *Botryosphaeria dothidea*, the chance to really take hold. This is coupled, in some cases, with *Schizophyllum commune*, which is in the xylem from previous cold weather injury. Both of these pathogens alone can kill branches. See the pictures below.

Management: Cultural practices that remove inoculum for next year – prune out cankers at least 12-15 inches below any visible symptoms, and dead wood – remove this from the orchard; remove mummified fruit that has *B. dothidea* infections.

Next year, plan to use fungicides against fruit infections. Additional information can be found beginning at <https://netreefruit.org/apples/spray-table/5-pink-apple> and <https://netreefruit.org/apples/diseases/white-rot-and-black-rot>



*Botryosphaeria dothidea* symptom



*Schizophyllum commune* symptoms



**Weed management:** Although it was dry this summer, weeds have taken off with the fall rains and now they need to be controlled. Annual weeds will die this fall and winter. But if they went to seed, those seeds will germinate next spring. Fall herbicide applications are an important tool to reduce weed problems into next spring and summer, and for managing perennial grasses and broadleaf weeds with pre-emergent materials. Perennial weeds are more susceptible to systemic materials like glyphosate and 2,4-D in the fall.

Weed management options for tree fruit can be found at <https://netrefruit.org> and for small fruit at <https://ag.umass.edu/fruit/ne-small-fruit-management-guide>

I did want to share some information on blueberry weed management from MSU. The following table is from [https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/blueberry\\_weed\\_control\\_updates](https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/blueberry_weed_control_updates)

Dormant	Budswell	Bloom	Petal fall	Green fruit	
April		May		June	July
Alion (late fall or early spring before budswell)					
Casoron, Sinbar (late fall or early spring)					
Kerb (late fall or early spring)					
Solicam (late fall or spring; 60 d PHI)					
Devrinol, Surflan (spring; before weeds emerge)					
Trellis (before weeds emerge; 60 d PHI)					
Karmex (fall or spring; 60 d PHI)					
Princep (late fall or spring; before fruit are present)					
Velpar (late fall or early spring; 90 d PHI)					
Chateau					(7 d PHI)
Zeus (Shielded sprayer if after petal fall)					(3 d PHI)
Matrix					(21 d PHI)
Sandeia					(14 d PHI)
Callisto (before bloom)					
Dual Magnum					(28 d PHI)
Stinger (not 1 wk before or after bloom)			Stinger (30 d PHI)		
Quinstar (before bud break)			Quinstar (30 d PHI)		
Embed-Extra (directed and shielded spray in spring or after harvest) (30 d PHI)					
Glyphosate, Rely, SelectMax					(14 d PHI)
Poast					(30 d PHI)
Fusilade					(1 d PHI)
Aim					(0 d PHI)
Gramoxone (before new shoots emerge)					

From work done by Dr. Eric Hansen, MSU, “Chateau and Solicam are good candidates for the fall, particularly in combination with older materials such as Karmex or Princep. Results of a trial this year (Table 1) showed that fall applications of Solicam plus Princep or Chateau alone provided good weed control through early August. The primary weeds present in this study were red sorrel, common crabgrass, common chickweed, Pennsylvania smartweed and horsenettle. Other trials indicate that fall applications of Karmex, Princep and Solicam are as effective as spring applications.”

Although the following table from Eric is 10 years old, the information is still applicable today and shows the impact of fall herbicides on weed cover the following season in blueberries.

**Table 1:** Effect of herbicides applied in fall 2010 and spring 2011 on weed cover in summer 2011. 'Duke' field, South Haven, MI.

Product	Rate lb ai/acre	Date	Weed cover (%)	
			15 June	1 Aug
Control			98	100
Princep 90Sinbar 80W	21	Nov 11	52	100
Princep 90Sollicam 80DF	22	Nov 11	3	27
Chateau 51%	0.38	Nov 11	6	16
Princep 90Sinbar 80W	21	April 1	87	100
Princep 90Sollicam 80DF	22	April 1	83	90
Chateau 51%	0.38	April 1	2	13
Callisto 4SC	0.188	May 10	42	90
Callisto 4SCSinbar 80W	0.0941	May 10	2	10
Callisto 4SCSollicam 80W	0.0942	May 10	6	33
Sandea 75WDG	0.047	May 10	37	98
Sandea 75WDGSinbar 80W	0.0471	May 10	1	17

**Water in 2023?** Everyone knows this was a tough year on irrigation systems and water sources with ponds drying up and wells running low. Growers moved irrigation around to different blocks depending on where the immediate need was. If your water supply was running low or ran out, or you don't have all of your blocks set up for irrigation, this is the time to look into programs the USDA-NRCS offers for irrigation. You may be able to receive financial assistance for a well, pump house, irrigation main lines, and more. With climate change we are going to have dramatic swings in weather – some years experiencing drought, other years extremely wet. We all need to be prepared for whatever Mother Nature throws our way.

For more information, contact USDA-NRCS at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/connecticut>

**Pruning** – leaves are dropping and some trees and bushes are already defoliated but they are not completely dormant so hold off. Pruning too early runs the risk of preventing the plants from totally hardening off and making them more susceptible to low temperature injury.

**Southern Blight on the horizon.** Unfortunately, we are likely to have this soil borne disease impacting our fruit trees in the near future as warmer weather allows diseases to survive and thrive in our climate that were once only found in the south It is already in PA. It has the potential to kill young trees and we need to be prepared.

According to Dr. Kari Peter, PSU plant pathologist, “it spreads by the movement of soil and/or diseased plant material”. For a factsheet on this disease from PSU where they have experience with it, click here <https://extension.psu.edu/new-disease-for-pa-fruit-growers-southern-blight-of-apple>

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