



Integrated Pest Management Program

Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
UConn Extension

Fruit Update – 4/28/23

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Apples:

Apples are in bloom this week. Most of the farms that I visited this week were at some point in the bloom stage. Some are already entering petal fall, depending on variety and location.



- Frost:
 - I have been watching the nighttime temperatures and for the most part they look good. I did receive a report of a low temperature of 28°F Wednesday morning.
 - Critical temperatures at or near the bloom stage are:
 - 28°F → 10% loss
 - 24°F → 90% loss
 - We'll continue to monitor this as we move forward.
- Fireblight:
 - NEWA models show a generally low risk for Fireblight based on temperatures and wetness. Still, we need to keep an eye out. I will notify you if risk levels increase. Otherwise, the forecast looks pretty good.
 - A spray protocol for preventing strep-resistance can be found in the most recent Crop Talk Newsletter [Here](#).

Date (2023)	Cougar Blight V8 Daily TRV			Infection Potential EIP value			
	Marginal	High	Extreme	Low	Moderate	High	Infection
April 26	4			0			
April 27	0			0			
April 28 Forecast	0			0			
April 29 Forecast	0			0			
April 30 Forecast	2			0			
May 1 Forecast	5			0			
May 2 Forecast	5			0			
May 3 Forecast	5			0			

* Indicates incomplete accumulation of the 4-day DH total. The DH value may reach "Caution", "High" or "Extreme" levels before spanning the 4-day accumulation cut-off time of Cougarblight.

- Codling Moth:
 - I've had a couple of questions on the codling moth this week. For this pest, the recommendation is to monitor adults starting at petal fall. Once you have captured your first adult, utilize the [NEWA Codling Moth Model](#) to calculate degree days and time insecticide applications. Information on materials and rates can always be found in the [New England Tree Fruit Guide](#). More information on this pest can be found [here](#).
 - Note: I can help you utilize these tools. Please, just reach out.

Peaches:

- For those of you that missed it, here is the article provided by UMass Extension on how to manage your peach blocks with 100% crop loss. This article was written by Win Cowgill, a peach expert. Please have a read and share as needed. It can be found [here](#).
- On a brighter note, the more growers I talk to, the more I hear that there will be somewhat of a peach crop, especially in the southern parts of the state.

Blueberries:

- Growth stages for blueberries around the state vary from late pink to full bloom, depending on location and variety.
- Mummy Berry:
 - Mulching should have already been done.
 - Up until Pre-bloom:
 - Urea applications and cultivation
 - Early to mid-bloom:
 - Scout your field for mummy berry strikes. This will help you to determine your risk for secondary infections.
 - I have been finding strikes out there already.
 - Consult the [New England Small Fruit Management Guide](#) for information on materials and rates.



Brambles:

- Brambles are pushing out growth quickly.
- Orange Rust:
 - If you have had a problem with this disease in the past, be vigilant in managing this disease.
 - Remove and destroy wild brambles.
 - Keep weeds down and make sure to prune to ensure adequate air circulation.



- If you find an infected plant now, remove and destroy it.
- Beyond this, see the [Small Fruit Management Guide](#) for materials and rates.

Grapes:

- These grapes are at the first-leaf-separated stage. Those further north are still at wooly bud. In the southern parts of the state, they are likely further along.
- We should be keeping an eye out for:
 - Flea Beetle & Mites
 - Phomopsis

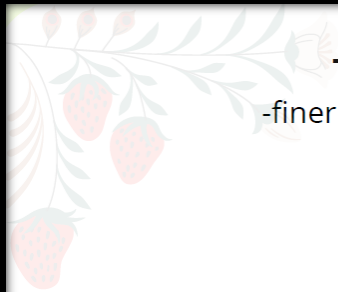


Results from the grower survey:

- I had a total of 43 responses, which is pretty good. I think it's a decent enough samples size to be representative of the needs of all of you.
- Below are the general topics ranked from most popular to least popular and the corresponding top picks in each general category:
 - 1) IPM – Pest/Disease Management; Scouting/Trapping
 - 2) Cultural/Production – Pruning; Plant Nutrition; Training/Trellising
 - 3) Preplant – Rootstock and Varietal Selection; Site Preparation
 - 4) Soils – Nutrient Management; Soil Biology
 - 5) Other – Climate Change Adaptation
 - 6) Technology – NEWA Website Training; Equipment
 - 7) Marketing – Farm Diversification
 - 8) Post Harvest Considerations
- Responses indicated that on-farm demonstrations, written publications, and visual publications are the preferred method of delivery.
- Please be on the look out for programming aimed towards these topics.

Reminders:

- Farm Visits – If you reached out for a farm visit and have not been contacted by me yet, I have not forgotten about you. I have a running list that I am slowly but surely chipping away at each week. I look forward to meeting you soon!
- CT Pomological Society Summer Meeting is June 13, 2023. We hope to see many of you there!
(*Details Below*).....



The Connecticut Pomological Society

-finer Fruits Through Co-operative Efforts Since 1891



Summer Fruit Grower Field Day

Date: Tuesday, June 13
Time: 4 pm – 8 pm
Location: Belltown Hill Orchards,
483 Matson Hill Rd, S. Glastonbury, CT

Everyone is welcome. Field day with equipment companies and vendors beginning at 4 pm, followed by dinner at 6 pm, and a short educational meeting. Pesticide credits applied for. Free, however registration will be required for food planning. Stay tuned.

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