Integrated Pest Management Program
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
UConn Extension

Fruit Update – 5/12/23

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Petal Fall Insecticide Applications:


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Just a few pests to keep in mind and to be on the lookout for now that we are reaching petal fall:

Plum Curculio (PC) – Given the warm evening temperatures, we need to be keeping an eye out for the PC. These pests target developing fruit starting at 5mm, moving in from block edges. Keep an eye out for their oviposition scars, these will let you know if you need to spray. More Information.

Rosy Apple Aphid – Systemics are required after petal fall and leaf curling due to a lack of contact with the pest. More Information.

Oriental Fruit Moth – Control of the first generation likely taken care of with a petal fall spray for Plum Curculio. Mating disruption is also an option for larger orchards (over 5 acres). More Information.

Apples:

Coddling Moth – Sustained capture has been recorded this week in central CT. At 50 degree-days, egg hatching begins. By 200 degree-days, insecticide applications should be made. This will likely be sometime next week. It's important to control this pest early on, as there are many generations throughout the season. More Information.

Fireblight – the NEWA model continues to forecast a high risk for infection over the next few days (until the 16th). If you had a Fireblight issue last year, the current risk level is EXTREME.

Any precipitation or heavy dew will likely cause infection and will require an application of Streptomycin. More Information.

See below: No Fireblight issue last year (left); Fireblight issue last year (right) - NEWA

Date (2023)	Cougar Blight V8 Daily TRV Risk Levels: Marginal / High / Extreme	Infection Potential EIP value Risk Levels: Low / Moderate / High / Infection
May 10	173	95
May 11	267	130
May 12 Forecast	541	180
May 13 Forecast	717	217
May 14 Forecast	700	204
May 15 Forecast	534	157
May 16 Forecast	257	92
May 17 Forecast	75	61

* 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.

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Thinning – Even given the poor pollination weather we have had, fruit set look good, and thinning is likely needed. Based on the Carbohydrate Thinning Model, there is little chance for overthinning. See below. [Follow this link for the thinning more information, enter green tip date, bloom date, and percentage of flowering spurs.]

Date (2023)	Max Temp (°F)	Min Temp (°F)	Solar Rad (MJ/m2)	Tree Carbohydrate Status (g/day)		Accum 4°C DD since bloom	Thinning Recommendation
				Daily	6-Day weighted average	≥ 200 & ≤ 250	L = Low Risk of Overthinning C = Caution D = Danger of Overthinning
May 9	67	46	22	15.02	-6.93	183.7	Thinning Rate L
May 10	71	42	26.1	27.08	-10.79	193.3	Apply Standard Chemical Thinning Rate L
May 11	79	49	26.5	-4.39	-9.82	207.2	Apply Standard Chemical Thinning Rate L
May 12	83	56	20.4	-42.35	-8.81	224	Apply Standard Chemical Thinning Rate L
May 13 Forecast	78	61	15.9	-54.99	0.51	240.9	Increase Chemical Thinning Rate by 30% L
May 14 Forecast	66	50	24.6	26.36	-	251.3	-
May 15 Forecast	69	49	24.5	25.51	-	262.3	-
May 16 Forecast	72	54	22.6	7.25	-	275.5	-
May 17 Forecast	63	50	24.2	39.16	-	285.2	-

If you missed my update last week, check out this link for information on thinning this season, here.

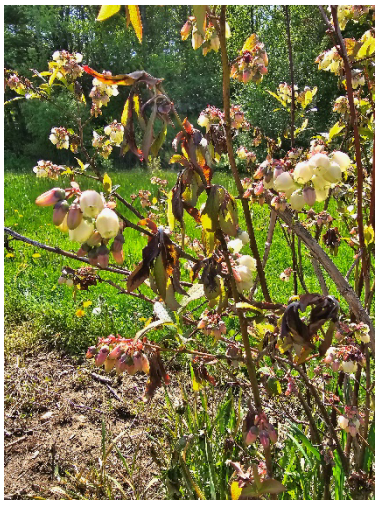
Peaches:

Peach Tree Borers – If you plan to control Lesser Peach Tree Borer and/or Greater Peach Tree Borer this season using mating disruption, ties need to be set out by shuck split. Utilize the Isomate PTB-Dual pheromone ties. More Information.

Brown Rot – For Brown Rot control, materials should be applied until 3 weeks after petal fall. Five hours of fruit wetness (even dew) is all that is needed to cause infection of fruit. Please see the New England Tree Fruit Management Guide for more information on materials and rates.

Blueberries:

Mummy Berry – This is what a Mummy Berry initial infection looks like. Overwintering mummies released their spores in the rain and caused infection of these shoots. If not managed now, these blighted shoots will cause secondary infections which lead to reduced yields, unmarketable fruit, and serve as inoculum for infection next year. Fungicide applications should be made to control this disease at this point. Please see the Small Fruit Management Guide for more information on materials and rates.



Strawberries:

Strawberries are blooming, some varieties are already setting a bit of fruit. I haven't run into any issues yet. Please let me know if you find anything out there.

FYI – The best way to contact me directly is my cell phone (860) 918-6392. I've missed a few calls to my office phone with no messages left. I want to make sure that I'm available to you when you need me. Although I have my office phone forwarding, it does not work as well as a direct call. Texting works too.