Integrated Pest Management Program
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

Fruit Update – 5/17/24

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Thinning – Carbohydrate Model:

We are at or nearing petal-fall for just about all our varieties. The next thing on everyone's mind is thinning. I would suggest checking out the Carbohydrate Thinning model on the NEWA website to inform your thinning decisions. Temperatures over 70°F are great for thinning. The weather forecast suggests that we will have a significant number of days above 70°F over the next 10 days. The thinning model site provides insight into what conditions constitute good thinning efficacy. You can use this information to inform your thinning decisions, with the model suggesting to either 1) use your usual rate, 2) increase your overall rate, or 3) decrease our overall rate. For those of you who are worried about overthinning, this model will let you know when you are in danger of overthinning (*See image below*). If anyone is unsure, I'm happy to run the models for you and let you know what they say about your specific location and conditions. You'll need to provide your green-tip date, bloom date, and percent flowering spurs. The model can be found at: https://newa.cornell.edu/apple-carbohydrate-thinning/

Results Table — Download CSV

Forecast Details — Thinning efficacy: Mild | Good | Very Good | Excessive

Date (2024)	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 8	79	55	16.5	-66.5	-26.15	117.9	Apply Standard Chemical Thinning Rate L
May 9	66	52	17.5	-30.07	-14.6	129	Increase Chemical Thinning Rate by 30% L
May 10	57	46	11.1	-15.67	-7.89	135.9	Increase Chemical Thinning Rate by 30% L
May 11	61	42	15.5	0.21	-14.27	142.6	Increase Chemical Thinning Rate by 30% L
May 12	59	43	16.3	4.44	-25.77	149.1	Apply Standard Chemical Thinning Rate L
May 13	70	43	25.3	2.71	-34.68	158.6	Decrease Chemical Thinning Rate by 15% L
May 14	77	50	24.5	-32.2	-41.96	172	Decrease Chemical Thinning Rate by 30% C
May 15	64	58	7.5	-77.34	-44.38	184	Decrease Chemical Thinning Rate by 30% C
May 16	63	57	11.1	-53.19	-36.25	195.6	Decrease Chemical L

Cornell Petal Fall Meeting Recording:

Because I'm far from a thinning expert, I encouraged you all to check out the recording from this past week's Petal-Fall meeting that Cornell put on. Terrence Robinson gives his recommendations for thinning this year. Watch the video here at this link.

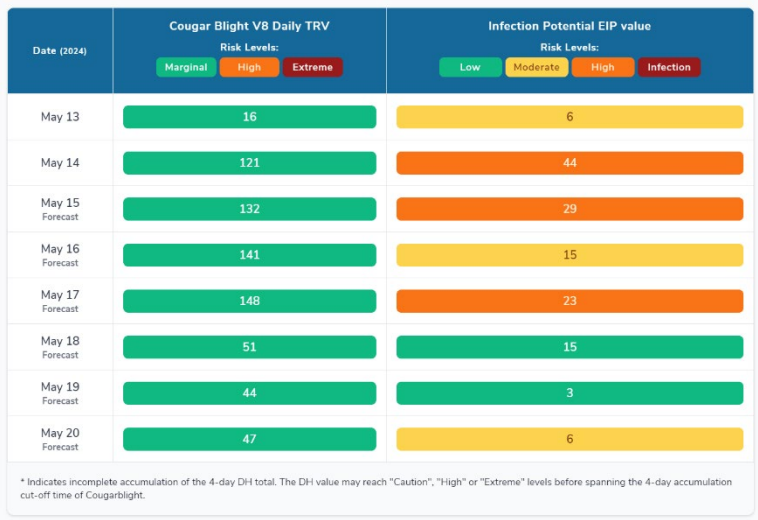
Upcoming Virtual Thinning Meeting:
There is a virtual thinning meeting coming up on May 22, 2024, from 5:30-7:30. It is free and no registration is required. I encourage everyone with questions about thinning to tune in. The link to the virtual meeting is here.

Petal Fall & Insect Pests:
Petal fall is one of the most critical times for insect pest control in our apple blocks. Some of our main target insects currently are Plum Curculio, European Apple Sawfly, Rosy Apple Aphid, and Oriental Fruit Moth. However, what we spray for should be informed by what we find while trapping/scouting. Below are some recommendations of materials rated as having **High Efficacy** for each of these pests:

- Plum Curculio – Imidan, Actara, Avaunt eVo, Exirel, Verdepryn, and Voliam Flexi
- European Apple Sawfly – Imidan, Actara, and Altacor
- Rosy Apple Aphid – Admire Pro, Assail, Exirel, Voliam Flexi
- Oriental Fruit Moth – Imidan, Assail, Delegate, Altacor, Exirel, and Voliam Flexi
- San Jose Scale – Movento
- Leaf Rollers – Delegate, Entrust, Proclaim, Dipel, Exirel, Altacor, and Voliam Flexi

For more information on materials and rates, please consult the New England Tree Fruit Management Guide.

Fireblight Risk:
Fireblight continues to be a concern until we are completely past bloom for all our varieties. Many of you have been out there spraying this week. Although the Cougar Blight Model designates the next few days as marginal risk, our EIP Risk levels are still registering as moderate to high risk. I'm not sure how useful these current predictions are considering the inconsistent weather forecasts. Access the model here: https://newa.cornell.edu/fire-blight



Date (2024)	Cougar Blight V8 Daily TRV Risk Levels: Marginal / High / Extreme	Infection Potential EIP value Risk Levels: Low / Moderate / High / Infection
May 13	16	6
May 14	121	44
May 15 Forecast	132	29
May 16 Forecast	141	15
May 17 Forecast	148	23
May 18 Forecast	51	15
May 19 Forecast	44	3
May 20 Forecast	47	6

* 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.

Apple Scab: We have been out of primary scab season since last week, according to the model. Over the next week or two, scout for scab lesions to see how well primary infections were controlled. They usually take 9-14 days to appear. If you find lesions, you'll have to continue to include materials for secondary scab for the rest of the season.

Phenology:

Strawberries – Green Fruit

Peaches – PF 25

Raspberries

Zestar – 10-15mm

Grapes – Inflorescence Swelling

PRICING SURVEY – Closes TODAY!

The Connecticut Pomological Society and **UConn Extension** are conducting a pricing survey to help all fruit growers price their produce in the 2024 season. We are asking you to indicate the prices you charged in 2023 for tree fruit, small fruit, and table grapes for Pick-Your-Own and Retail. NO PERSONAL INFORMATION will be collected. We do ask that you indicate the part of CT (or other state) you are in because we all know that location does impact what you can, should, or do receive for your produce. The summarized results will

be shared with all growers. If you do not grow a particular type of fruit, skip that section and move on to the next.

This survey will close on Friday, May 17 at 5 pm. We appreciate your time and support of our industry!

The survey link is: https://uconn.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_02i6nNy4tQX1o2y

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The CT Pomological Society and UConn Extension will be holding a **Summer Field Day**.

Date: Tuesday, June 11

Location: Holmberg Orchards, 12 Orchard Lane, Gales Ferry, CT

Time: Beginning at 4 pm with equipment demonstrations and vendors/informational tables, followed by dinner and a short educational program. Pesticide credits will be available.

Cost: Free

Registration information and additional program information are coming soon.

If you would like to have a vendor/information table or demonstrate equipment, contact Mary Concklin at mary.concklin@uconn.edu

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