

Orchard Outlook



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July 8, 2015

Fruit Development	Degree Day Accumulations	Diseases
Insects	Horticulture	Events

Fruit Development

Fruitlet drop in apple is finished in most areas. Some very early sweet cherry cultivars have been harvested with the main varieties maturing in the next couple of weeks.

Diseases

Apple Scab

The last infection period occurred on July 6th and no additional infection periods were recorded since the last Orchard Outlook.

Powdery Mildew

Continue to watch for powdery mildew in nurseries and young plantings which can interfere with terminal development and tree growth. See the Orchard Management Schedule for registered products for mildew control.

Fire Blight

With active blossom blight, canker blight, and shoot blight infections observed in some Valley orchards, scout your orchards on a weekly basis to look for signs of infection and prune off these infections where feasible to reduce secondary inoculum production. The most important areas to focus on are 1-5 year old trees with a few strikes.

With the presence of ooze a possibility in the orchard, work only in dry conditions as ooze is spread much more easily during wet conditions. Also work in clean blocks first before moving into infected blocks. Practice sanitation wherever feasible.

Wanted: Shoot Blight Strikes for Streptomycin Resistance Survey

AAFC is conducting a national survey for streptomycin resistance in apples. This would be very valuable for the Nova Scotia industry to know its status regarding streptomycin resistance. I am collecting shoot blight

strikes to forward onto AAFC. If you have active shoot blight in your orchard, I would appreciate if you contact me by either phone or text (902-679-7908) or email (cduyvelhoff@perennia.ca) as I would like to take a sample from several commercial orchards.

Brown Rot

Stone fruits become susceptible to brown rot infections again in the final 2-3 weeks before maturity. Regular preharvest fungicide applications are critical, especially during periods of wet weather. With periods of heavy and frequent rainfall, the interval between fungicide applications may need to be as short as 3-5 days. Once brown rot has appeared on picked fruit it is too late to do anything about control. If you are treating more than one type of stone fruit make sure that the product is registered for all the crops that you are spraying. Also check the pre-harvest interval. Check the Stone Fruit Management Schedule for products and rates. Rotate fungicide classes for resistance management.

Insects

Codling Moth

If a second treatment for codling moth is required, it should be made this week. I have observed frass from larval tunneling in one orchard on Monday.

Apple Maggot

Suzie Blatt notes that no apple maggot flies have been captured yet. The first capture would be expected any day now. Growers should hang yellow sticky traps in the orchard this week. The economic spray threshold is 1 maggot fly per orchard. Apply an insecticide 7-10 days after the first fly is captured on a yellow sticky board. Registered products for control are limited to Imidan (2.68 kg/ha), Assail (240 g/ha), Calypso (440 mL/ha), or Exirel (1.5 L/ha). Avoid combinations with Exirel and Captan. Growers that are using Altacor, Delegate, or Twinguard for codling moth or OBLR control will have some suppressive activity on AM, but these products should not be relied upon for control, especially in high pressure situations.

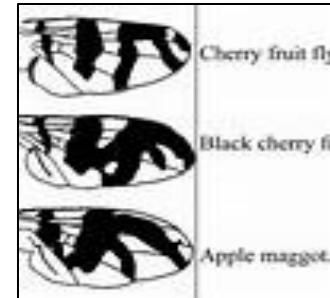


Figure 1: Note wing pattern for apple maggot (bottom).

In organic orchards, Surround can be used to deter egg laying and GF 120 fruit fly bait can be used for suppression of adult flies. Both Surround and GF 120 application should begin as soon as flies are present in the orchard.

Traps should be cleaned out within a day of application to determine the additional emergence of adult flies. Additional captures when the residual life of the insecticide is complete (14 days depending on rainfall with Imidan) will indicate a second spray is required. With the neonicotinoids or diamides, insecticide residue should be maintained through the end of August and retreatment would be based on rainfall or 10-14 days residual activity. The following article from Michigan State University has a good reference table of apple maggot insecticides. http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/managing_apple_maggots_using_insecticides

Obliquebanded Leafroller (OBLR)

If you have noted damage from the obliquebanded leafroller (OBLR) last year, please refer to last week's OO.

Aphids

Continue to check for green aphid pressure on mature blocks and young plantings. Young plantings are particularly susceptible to aphid damage. There are several classes available for aphid control. Closer and Twinguard (sulfoxaflor) have one of the faster working active ingredients for aphid control.

Mites

Summer miticide options include Acramite, Kanemite, Nexter, Envidor, and Nealta. Scout your orchards or check your scouting reports to see if there is a treatable population. Summer mite populations have yet to build in some orchards.

Horticulture

Fruit Thinning

Fruitlet drop from thinners is finishing in most areas. This is a good time to make a few notes on thinner performance. Hand thinning can begin in blocks where chemical thinning did not adequately reduce crop load. Start with the highest value varieties such as Ambrosia, Honeycrisp, Gala, and Club varieties.

Young Tree Training

Young plantings should have trellis installed and trees supported and trained as soon as possible. It has been demonstrated that the earlier the support is provided, the better the tree growth. Shoots competing with the leader should be pinched out and young trees that have not yet reached the top wire or filled their space should be defruited to avoid runting out the tree, especially on young Honeycrisp plantings.

Weed Control

Young plantings, especially on dwarf rootstocks, should be maintained weed free through the end of July. Recent studies in New York (Deborah Breth, Cornell University) indicate that poor weed control in young plantings reduced crop potential by nearly \$3,000 per acre by the third leaf!

Apple Maggot Eradication Technician

Please contact Elizabeth Nichols to report wild trees to schedule their elimination.

Please also contact Elizabeth Nichols if you have completely removed blocks so records can be updated for apple maggot inspections.

Elizabeth Nichols

Apple Maggot Eradication Technician

Blair House, Kentville Agricultural Centre
32 Main Street, Kentville, NS B4N 1J5

Email: enichols@nsapples.com

Office: 902-678-1093

Cell: 902-670-3599

Events

Orchard Tour – Wednesday, August 5th

The NSFGA Annual Orchard Tour will be taking place on Wednesday, August 5th. The tour will begin at Scotian Gold Cooperative in Coldbrook at 8:30 am and will return to the same location at approximately 4:30 pm. Further information will be published in the coming week.

This Orchard Outlook has been published with the input of the Orchard Outlook Committee and Erika Bent (APM).

Editor: *Chris Duyvelshoff*
Perennia

