

# Ohio Fruit ICM News

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## Calendar - Newly added in ***Bold***

February 16-17, North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Conference and Trade Show. Hyatt Regency Hotel, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. For more information [www.nafdma.com](http://www.nafdma.com).

February 19-20, 5<sup>th</sup> Ohio River Valley Marketing Conference. Louisville, KY. Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana have partnered to organize an affordable educational conference for growers and agricultural stakeholders. For more information contact [Tom Snyder](#) or phone (740) 289-2071 Extension 220.

February 21-22, Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention. Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario. This is Canada's premier horticultural event featuring 7 concurrent sessions, close to 150 exhibitors, 125 speakers from all over the world and over 1200 registrants. All programs – apples, global foods, energy, direct Farm Sales, Famer's Market's Ontario, Vegetables, Berries, Water, and Organics are listed at [www.ofvc.ca](http://www.ofvc.ca).

February 22, Wine Grape Pruning Workshop. Ashtabula. Contact Dave Scurlock for pre-registration at 330-263-3825 or [scurlock.2@osu.edu](mailto:scurlock.2@osu.edu)

**March 4-7, International Organic Tree Fruit Research Symposium**, Kellogg Center, East Lansing, Mich. For more information contact Mark Whalon, (517) 353-9425.

March 24<sup>th</sup> The Law and You: An Agricultural Perspective. ODA office, Reynoldsburg. A program for women in agriculture sponsored by Ohio Agri-Women. For more information contact Pat Holmes [holmes.86@cfaes.osu.edu](mailto:holmes.86@cfaes.osu.edu) or phone 937-456-8174.

February 27-28, Illinois Small Fruit and Strawberry Schools Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, Illinois. For more information contact Bronwyn Aly, 618-695-2444

March 3-4, 28<sup>th</sup> Annual OEFFA Conference. Granville, Ohio. More information and on-line registration [www.oeffa.org](http://www.oeffa.org) or phone 614.421.2022.

March 10. 5<sup>th</sup> Appalachian Opportunities Symposium, Beckley, WV. “Plants and Plant Systems for Small Farm Product Diversification”. Sponsored by Mountain State University, USDA/ARS Appalachian Farming Systems, and WV Herb Association. For more information contact Dean Myles at (304) 929-1630.

March 14, Northern Ohio Small Fruit School. Ehope Joint Vocational School, Milan. 10:30-3:00. Registration fee of \$5 is payable at the door. For more information or to pre-register contact [Zachary Rinkes](mailto:Zachary.Rinkes) or phone 419-627-7631.

March 19, Advanced Topics Blueberry School, OSU South Centers. **Pre-registration required.** For more information contact Brad Bergefurd at 740-289-2071 Ext136 or by email at [bergefurd.1@osu.edu](mailto:bergefurd.1@osu.edu)

July 26, Beekeeping Workshop, OSU South Centers. More information to follow.

## Comments from the Editor

Spring is coming even though it may not feel like it lately. If you are interested in what will be happening with your brambles and tree fruit when the next warm spell arrives, you can take a cutting and place it in a jar of water. If it has accumulated all the chilling hours required to break dormancy you should start to see bud swell within about 10 days.

As you can see in the preliminary climatologic data for January in this issue, average temperatures were warm across the state. This will be a good winter hardiness test for our new primocane brambles we are evaluating at the South Centers. We have five new selections of primocane blackberries and a primocane black raspberry that were planted last Spring.

If you have ice damaged plants you will need to be extra vigilant with your pruning and disease protection practices this year.

## Advanced Topics Blueberry School

An advanced topics blueberry school will be held March 19th at the OSU South Centers from 9:30-2:00. This is a continuation of last years Intensive IPM Scout Training. Our topics will be Food Safety for Blueberries (9:30-10:30), Insecticide Performance (10:45-

11:30), and Pesticide Record Keeping (12:30-1:15) Marketing Blueberries (1:30-2:15). For new participants the fee is \$100, however they will receive the 3-ring binder of materials and video from last years presentation. There is no charge for returning participants. Lunch will be provided and **pre-registration is required.**

**Evaluation of New Cultivation Tools to Reduce Labor Requirements in Matted Row Strawberry Culture** by Mary Jo Kelly, Marvin P. Pritts and Robin R. Bellinder, Department of Horticulture, Cornell University (Source: New York Berry News Vol. 5 #11)

Three new cultivation tools were compared with a traditional between-row cultivator, an herbicide control, and the conventional herbicide-plus-cultivator weed management program used in a first-year strawberry (*Fragaria xananassa* Duch.) planting. The new implements were 1) a Rabe Werk flex-tine harrow, 2) a Buddingh finger weeder, and 3) a Bärtschi brush hoe, and the traditional implement was a double-headed multivator.

The flex-tine harrow performed poorly. Its use appeared to stimulate germination of weed seeds as end-of-season weed biomass was high and yield the following year was low. It was also the most labor-intensive treatment to maintain. The finger weeder reduced in-row weed growth dramatically, and productivity of this treatment was high, but its use required additional between-row cultivation with another implement. The brush hoe, while classified as a between-row weeder, reduced in-row weed growth as well, and yields for brushed plots were also high. Cultivation with a multivator resulted in good weed control between rows and high yields, but hand weeding requirements within the row were high. Weed growth and yields were unacceptable when the herbicide was used alone, but an early season pre-emergent herbicide application, followed by a single late-season hand weeding and cultivation, resulted in a dramatic reduction in weeds at the end of the year and a notable increase in yield the following year.

The conventional herbicide-plus-cultivation weed management program, used in the establishment year by growers who plant in the perennial matted row system, continues to be a good choice if labor is both plentiful and affordable; however, the finger weeder and brush hoe are viable alternatives for situations in which labor is scarce. Organic growers, and growers who plant in non-traditional annual systems, may benefit from their use as well.

To read the full research article, see HortTechnology January-March 2007 17(1)

**Apple Movement Sees Double-Digit Increases in January** (Source: © *Market News* Vol 13, #4, a publication of the U.S. Apple Association.)

Fresh apples continue to move out of storage at a strong pace not normally seen in January. This is attributed to strong demand for apples and other fresh fruits after freeze damage to the California orange crop last month. At the same time, holdings were reported slightly below last year's levels. Movement of fresh apples from regular and Controlled Atmosphere

(CA) storage totaled 14.2 million bushels during January -- an increase of 15 percent over 2006, and 24 percent over the five-year average for January movement, according to the U.S. Apple Association's (USApple) nationwide survey of storage facilities.

Movement of fresh-market apples from CA storage during January 2007 was 9 percent greater than the same time last year, and up 20 percent from the five-year January average. January 2007 processing apple movement was 7.3 million bushels, 16 percent more than in 2006 and 10 percent more than the five-year average for January movement. Total January 2007 movement of fresh and processing apples of 21.6 million bushels was 15 percent greater than movement in January 2006 and 19 percent above the five year average.

## February Holdings

As of Feb. 1, 2007, U.S. fresh holdings of 60.9 million bushels were 4 percent under last year, but 1 percent over the five-year average. Fresh CA holdings on Feb. 1, 2007, were 5 percent lower than holdings on Feb. 1, 2006, but approximately equal to the five-year average for holdings on that date.

On a regional basis, fresh holdings on Feb. 1, 2007, in the Northeast were 8 percent higher than holdings on Feb. 1, 2006, and 3 percent higher than the five-year average for that date. Southeast Feb. 1, 2007, fresh holdings were 8 percent lower than on Feb. 1, 2006, and 16 percent below the five-year average for that date. In the Midwest, Feb. 1, 2007, fresh holdings were up 32 percent as compared to holdings on Feb. 1, 2006, and 23 percent higher than the five-year average.

## **Reregistration of Phosmet (Imidan®)** By James R. Cranney, Jr., U.SApple

On January 19, 2007, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced its decision to reregister phosmet (Imidan®). The decision marks the end of a five year review to address alleged farm worker risk on nine commodities including apples. As part of the decision, EPA has proposed to increase the apple reentry interval and reduce the total seasonal per acre use. However, the new reentry intervals will not be effective until the 2009 growing season. Additionally, EPA has agreed to accept additional data from Gowan Company to further refine the farm worker risk assessment. This new data could remove EPA farm worker risk concerns, so the mitigation measures could be eliminated before they take effect in 2009.

USApple, legal counsel Ed Ruckert and the Northwest Horticultural Council's Mike Willet worked closely with Gowan Company and EPA to avoid unnecessary mitigation. We successfully eliminated a pick-your-own orchard phosmet prohibition and an enclosed cab requirement and delayed implementation of the mitigation measures.

However, EPA insisted on increasing reentry intervals on a regional basis. The following mitigation measures will take effect in 2009 as follows:

### Apples East of the Rocky Mountains

- The Reentry Interval will increase from 3 days to 4 days
- Harvesting is prohibited for 7 days following an application of Imidan, which is equivalent to the current PHI.

- Dormant season applications are prohibited

All Regions

- Reduce the seasonal maximum from 21 lbs. of active ingredient to 15.5 lbs. of active ingredient per season
- Maintain buffer zones of 25 feet to an occupied building for ground applications and 50 feet to occupied building for aerial applications
- Require medium or coarser spray for aerial applications
- Pick-your-own harvesting is prohibited 14 days after an application

USApple will continue to monitor developments regarding phosmet and Gowan's progress in generating new data that may eventually remove the mitigation. Please contact me by telephone at (800) 781-4443 or via e-mail at [jcranney@usapple.org](mailto:jcranney@usapple.org) if you have questions or need additional information.

**Preliminary Monthly Climatologic Data for Selected Ohio Locations - January 2007**

	January		Average Temperatures			
	Precip.	Normal	High	Low	Monthly	Normal
<b>Akron-Canton</b>	4.34	2.49	37.0	22.6	29.8	25.2
<b>Cincinnati</b>	3.84	2.92	42.4	27.7	35.0	29.7
<b>Cleveland</b>	5.84	2.48	37.7	24.5	31.1	25.7
<b>Columbus</b>	4.25	2.53	40.5	28.3	34.4	28.3
<b>Dayton</b>	4.08	2.60	38.7	25.8	32.3	26.3
<b>Mansfield</b>	5.21	2.63	36.7	23.6	30.2	24.3
<b>Toledo</b>	3.56	1.93	35.8	23.9	29.9	23.9
<b>Youngstown</b>	5.20	2.34	37.1	22.6	29.8	24.9

This data is from the National Weather Service. Temperature is Fahrenheit and precipitation is in inches.

NOTE: Disclaimer - This publication may contain pesticide recommendations that are subject to change at any time. These recommendations are provided only as a guide. It is always the pesticide applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide being used. Due to constantly changing labels and product registrations, some of the recommendations given in this writing may no longer be legal by the time you read them. If any information in these recommendations disagrees with the label, the recommendation must be disregarded. No endorsement is intended for products mentioned, nor is criticism meant for products not mentioned. The author and Ohio State University Extension assume no liability resulting from the use of these recommendations.

**Ohio Poison Control Number**

(800) 222-1222  
TDD # is (614) 228-2272