

Ohio Fruit ICM News

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Comments from the Editor

I've just returned from our annual Midwest Fruit Workers Meeting where we discuss the year and begin updating the annual spray guide. Dr. Funt, our former state small fruit specialist, joined us this year. One of the big topics of conversation was what effect the dry weather and warm temperatures would have on next year's fruit crop. Dr. Funt believes that the warm temperatures and dry conditions have resulted in a loss of carbohydrates even though there wasn't much fruit set south of I-70 in Ohio. We will have to see what happens, but next year could be another difficult year.

Extension Educators from across the lower Midwest were all commenting on the early shut down of everbearing red raspberries this year due to the heat. A comment was made by one specialist that one of her growers has a brambles and strawberries growing in high tunnels, and the plants in the tunnels were still going strong while the plants in the field had shut down. While we think of high tunnels typically for retaining heat, in this instance they were providing shade and cooling.

Southern Ohio Vegetable and Small Fruit Update by Brad Bergefurd, OSU South Centers Extension Horticulturist

Plasticulture strawberry growers are reporting severe runner formation on plasticulture strawberry crops that were planted at the normal planting time, the last of August and early September, due to the high temperatures and summer like conditions that have persisted. Research out of North Carolina by Dr. Barclay Poling indicates the importance of trimming runners from plants in the fall to maximize yield. Stolons or runners act as a sink for photosynthates and nutrients, reducing the amount of resources available for fruit and flower bud production. Therefore to maximize yield potential hand removal of runners is highly suggested and the way the 20 day weather forecast looks high in the 50's to 60's this may be a continued task throughout October and into November. Also

due to the current and forecasted warm temperatures it looks like row cover application, which usually are applied around Halloween, may be delayed due to the unusually warm fall season.

Strawberry growers also need to continue irrigating matted row as well as plasticulture strawberry crops to maximize fall flower initiation and formation. For June bearing strawberry varieties the number of pistils and the number of cells per berry are determined in the fall. Irrigation during this dry fall can help to improve next springs fruit size. Irrigation should start when the soil moisture is at 50 percent of field capacity. For more on irrigation of the strawberry crop see the Midwest Strawberry Production Guide, OSU Bulletin 926 available from you county OSU Extension office or from OSU Extension Media Distribution, 216 Kottman Hall, 2021 Coffey Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210 or phone (614) 292-1607.

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

Oct. 27, Kentucky Nut Growers Association Fall Meeting, UK Research and Education Center, Princeton. Contact Joe Masabni 270-365-7541 ext 247; e-mail jmasabni@uky.edu.

November 2, Deer Control Workshop, OSU South Centers Piketon., For more information contact Julie Strawser at 740-289-2071 ext. 223 or 1-800-297-2072 ext. 223 (Ohio only).

November 3, Midwest Apple Improvement Association Annual Meeting. Dawes Arboretum, Newark, OH. For more information contact Mitch Lynd at (740) 967-5355.

November 11-13, Southeast Strawberry Expo, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Research Triangle Park (Durham), North Carolina. New Grower workshop and farm tour on November 11; trade show and educational sessions on November 12-13. For more information, email ncstrawberry@mindspring.com, call 919-542-3687, or visit www.ncstrawberry.com.

December 3, USDA NC-SARE Farmer & Rancher Grant proposals deadline

December 4-6, Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market EXPO, DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI, for more information www.glexpo.com.

Jan. 7-8, 2008 Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference, Embassy Suites, Lexington, KY. Contact John Strang 859-257-5685; e-mail: jstrang@uky.edu

Jan 14-16, 2008. Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association Congress, Kalahari Resort & Conference Center, Sandusky Ohio

Jan. 28-30, 2008. Indiana Horticultural Congress, Adam's Mark Hotel, Indianapolis. For more information see www.inhortcongress.org

Jan. 29-31, Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, PA. For More information Contact William Troxell 717-694-3596.

Jan. 29-31, Annual meeting of the North American Strawberry Growers Association will be held in conjunction with the Mid Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention (above), and the National American Bramble Growers meeting (below). For more information: Kevin Schooley at kconsult@allstream.net or visit www.nasga.org.

Jan 29-31, North American Bramble Growers Association Conference, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey PA. For more information contact: Debby Wechsler, 1138 Rock Rest Rd. Pittsboro, NC 27312, nabga@mindspring.com.

February 11-12, Ohio Grape & Wine Conference, Shisler Conference Center at OARDC in Wooster.

February 16-17, 29th Annual OEFFA Conference, Granville, Ohio. Featuring keynote speakers Joel Huesby (farmer and mobile livestock processor, co-sponsored by IFO) and Dr. Kamyar Enshayan (local food activist), along with nearly 50 workshops, locally sourced organic food, kids' conference, child care, trade show, Saturday evening entertainment, and more. For more information contact Laura Wies at 614-421-2022.

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

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