

Ohio Fruit ICM News

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Comments from the Editor

There was a chill in the air this morning and the season is winding down. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Ted Gastier, Lois McDowell, Ron Becker, Celeste Welty and Cindy Crawford for the scouting reports again this season. Thanks also to our authors and contributors. Future issues of the newsletter for the year will be as needed.

Proposed Changes to the Crop Insurance Program By Lynn Kime, Senior Extension Associate and Samuel Coburn PSU. (Source: PSU Fruit Times Vol 28, #9)

The Federal Crop Insurance Commission (FCIC) has proposed several changes to the crop insurance program. These changes, if implemented, will begin for the 2011 crop insurance year and continue for the succeeding years. The 2010 crop year (which begins November 20, 2009) will be under the current program requirements. The changes to the existing program were posted on the Federal Register on Tuesday September 8, 2009 and are open to comment until the close of business on November 9, 2009. ...

The most dramatic change is that fresh apples and processing apple production may be designated as separate optional units. However, you must follow recommended cultural practices generally used for fresh apple acreage. Processing apple production will be defined as “apples from insurable acreage failing to meet the fresh apple production requirements.”

You may need to certify to your insurance provider that you sold at least 50 percent (of your fresh apple production from acreage insured as fresh) as fresh apples in one or more

of the three most recent crop years. As you are harvesting this season, keep the most accurate records possible to comply with this requirement. As with all of agriculture, record keeping is becoming a requirement for many programs within the fruit industry. Keeping accurate and detailed records will only benefit your operation for years to come.

All insurable damage to either fresh or processing apples will be counted on a unit basis. If you fail to notify your insurance provider of any insurable damage to the crop prior to harvest, or if apple production is not graded prior to sale or storage, then such production will be considered production to count and will be counted against your guaranteed production and will be included in your Actual Production History (APH). You must leave representative samples of the insurable damage if required by your insurance provider. Also, language has been added clarifying that any damage after the crop is harvested and placed in storage, or is sold, is not insurable.

If you have used Optional Coverage for Quality Adjustment in the past, this option will only apply to apples insured as fresh production. It will not be available for processing production. Also, under this option, the FCIC proposes to make any fresh production sold as U.S. Fancy or better will count towards your production. There are also many small wording changes included within the Federal Register that you should review. These are the major changes the FCIC is proposing. As previously stated, the comment period ends November 9, 2009 so take some time to look this over carefully.

The following bullet points cover the most dramatic changes.

- Allow optional units by type (varietal group definition would be removed) as specified in the Special Provisions of Insurance. For example, an optional unit for fresh apple production, and an optional unit for processing apple production.
- Allow the apple grower (insured) to select different coverage levels for the fresh apple acreage (unit) and the processing apple acreage (unit).
- Insureds will be required to provide verifiable records to prove that 50% of their fresh apple acreage was sold as fresh apples in one or more of the three recent crop years. Note: apple growers must follow recommended cultural practices generally in use for fresh apple acreage in the county as determined by agricultural experts.
- A new section has been added to the policy to state that any apple production not graded prior to sale or storage will be considered as production to count.

I know many producers and insurance providers have been requesting changes to the apple program and these are a result of these requests. You may have additional changes you see necessary and some of these changes you may disagree with but, the FCIC is trying to accommodate the requests. They also need to try to eliminate any potential for fraud within the program. Make your feelings known by commenting on these proposed changes, however you feel.

To read the entire posting and for how and where to send comments, visit: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Once there, type apple into the box labeled “Keyword” and it will be listed farther down on the screen.

2009 OSU Income Tax School and Agricultural Issues Workshop

Below is the listing of dates and locations for the 2009 OSU Income Tax Workshops and the Agricultural Issues Workshop. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact David Miller at miller58@cfaes.osu.edu.

Cincinnati – November 5 (*new one day school*)

Montgomery Inn
9440 Montgomery Road
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Cleveland (Brunswick) – November 10 (*new one day school*)

Diamond Event Center
1480 Pearl Road
Brunswick, OH 44212

Fremont – November 12-13

Ole Zim's Wagonshed
1375 State Route 590
Gibsonburg, Ohio 43431

Columbus – November 16-17 (*New Location*)

Bridgewater Banquet & Conference Center
10561 Sawmill Parkway
Powell, OH 43065

Kent – November 18-19

Kent State University - Student Center
Summit Street
Kent, OH 44242

Dayton – November 23-24

Presidential Banquet Center, Dayton
4548 Presidential Way
Dayton, OH 45429

Ashland – December 1-2

Convocation Center, Ashland University
820 Claremont Ave.
Ashland, OH 44805

Chillicothe – December 3-4

Ross County Service Center
475 Western Avenue
Chillicothe, OH 45601

Lima – December 8-9
Lima Civic and Convention Center
7 Towne Square
Lima, OH 45801

Zanesville – December 10-11
Ohio University Campus Center,
Zanesville Branch
1425 Newark Road
Zanesville, OH 43701

2-Hour Ethics Class – 5:15-7:15 p.m. (Three Locations Only)
Columbus – November 16
Kent – November 18
Lima – December 8

AGRICULTURAL ISSUES WORKSHOP: Friday, December 18 (All Locations)
Caldwell: OSUE Southeast Region Office, 16714 Wolf Run Road, Caldwell
Greenville: OSUE Darke County, 603 Wagner Avenue, Greenville
Ottawa: OSUE Putnam County, 124 Putnam Parkway, Ottawa
Upper Sandusky: OSUE Wyandot County, 109 S. Sandusky, Rm. 16, Upper
Urbana: OSUE Champaign County, 1512 South US Hwy. 68, Ste. B100,
Wooster : OSU Extension Center at Wooster, 1680 Madison Avenue,
Ashtabula: OSUE Ashtabula County, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson
Columbus (new location): OSU Campus, 2120 Fyffe Rd., Rm. 105 Agr Adm Bldg.

Southwest Michigan, 2009 Season Review Mark Longstroth, Bill Shane, Diane Brown-Rytlewski MSU (Source: email update)

The 2009 growing season will be long remembered by fruit growers for various reasons. There was some winter damage due to several radiation freezes in mid January (-10 to -24F). These freezes affected lower portions of orchards and vineyards and blueberries located away from Lake Michigan in good blueberry sites, located in lower topographic conditions. Initially it was feared that wine grapes and peaches would be severely affected. These crops suffered some damage but still harvest respectable crops. Spring began early with a warm March but April began with a snowstorm. Significant rain events with long, warm wetting periods occurred in April on April 19 and April 27. This ignited significant disease problems in apples and blueberries. A light frost that caused scatter damage occurred April 23, between these two rains. The 2009 growing season was generally cooler than normal with the GDD accumulation slowly falling behind normal. Rainfall was plentiful in April, May into mid June. Major storms crossed the region on June 19. These storms were followed by dry conditions in July resulting in dry soils until late August, especially in the south end of the district. Wide spread heavy rains in late August relieved most drought stress symptoms, so drought was not a major factor for most fruit crops. GDD accumulations had fell behind normal as the season progressed. In late August, GDD were as much as two weeks (300 to 500 GDD) behind

normal but harvest timings were generally only a few days behind normal. September was a little warmer with warm days and cool nights and dry good conditions for ripening fruit and harvest quality for most crops was good in 2009.

Southwest Michigan Growing Degree Day Totals March 1 through September 20, 2009				Grapes, April 1
Location	GDD 42	GDD 45	GDD 50	GDD 50
SWMREC:	3648	3144	2352	2312
Fennville:	3396	2903	2132	2106

Tree fruit

Insect pest development was relatively normal with no unusual pest outbreaks. Japanese beetle and rose chafer numbers were low. These pests have declined over the last several years. The cool season meant that there were no third generation of codling moth after Labor Day and third generation Oriental fruit moth was not a big problem either. 2009 was more of a disease problem year. The wet spring set up the early development of diseases such as apple scab, cherry leaf spot and bacterial spot in peaches that caused significant injury or crop loss.

Apricots were blooming by April 20 and generally suffered little spring freeze injury. Apricot yields and quality were good.

Peaches were little affected by the severe cold in January. Bloom was heavy and peaches seem to have suffered little damage from spring freezes. Many growers lost some fruit buds and bloom but this generally reduced hand thinning after bloom. [Peach leaf curl](#) was not a big problem but symptoms were seen on leaves that appeared in mid summer. Bacterial spot was a common problem that continued to worsen as the season progressed. Some growers tried low rates of copper pre and post bloom to suppress bacterial spot, with some apparent success, but with some leaf loss due to phytotoxicity. Rusty spot was common in some planting early. Brown rot was established early in some trees and rotted nearly all fruit on those trees, in spite of apparently strong fungicide programs.

Sweet cherries were at full bloom April 27. There was some winter damage, which resulted in poor development of fruit buds in sweet cherry and some tree mortality for young orchards. The cool wet spring was good for bacterial canker development and collapse of spurs and branches due to bacterial canker was a problem in some plantings. Fruit brown rot and alternaria spot were common on fruit that cracked during rains before harvest. Generally there was a good crop of sweet cherries and little brown rot during harvest.

Tart cherry bloom was in late April. There was scattered damage due to winter cold and spring frost. Many orchards had a light crop in the bottoms of the trees due to the freeze on April 23. Rains shortly before harvest helped to size fruit. A strong storm with high winds just before harvest (June 19) did blow down trees, blowing fruit off the trees and marking ripe tree on the trees. Cherry leaf spot became a significant problem in some

orchards, in part due to extended rain periods in the spring. Growers are reminded that resistance to sterol fungicide exists in cherry leaf spot and other fungicide materials need to be included in cherry leaf spot control programs.

In Plums, bacterial canker symptoms on leaves and fruit caused fruit loss in some European plum orchards. Yields were fair to good for most plum varieties.

Apples, bloomed in early May. Early development was scattered due to a generally cool spring with several warm spells. Heavy scab rains occurred on April 19 at tight cluster and April 27 at during pink bud and early bloom. This was a foretaste of a wet spring marked by many long wetting events. Scab was common in area apple orchards. A section 18 was granted for Kasumin (Kasugamyacin) for fire blight control. Bloom was generally cool. There were several rain events during bloom but they were generally cool. One warm light rain occurred in isolation during an otherwise cool period on May 14 and resulted in a fireblight infection. This initial fireblight infection spread and many growers had significant fireblight in some orchards in 2009. Crop yields for 2009 were good.

Pear bloom was heavy and there were no significant problems in pears. A good crop of Bartlett was harvested in late August.

Strawberries suffered some damage during bloom. Harvest was delayed in the northern areas of the region by the cool spring. Because of the cool weather fruit size was not large and fruits were slow to ripen. Growers had a hard time supplying demand and often needed to close early or remain closed for several days to allow fruit to ripen. Harvest quality was generally good. Drought conditions after harvest and widespread potato leafhopper injury stunted some field after renovation.

Raspberries suffered some injury from the cold winter, but generally early season growth was good. Anthracnose was common in poorly sprayed summer berries. Bloom and early growth were good, but mid and late harvests declining with the dry conditions in the mid summer. Fall bearing raspberry harvest has been good some far with few reported fruit rots.

In Blackberries, winter injury caused severe damage to thornless blackberries, killing many canes to the snowline. Damage was not always apparent at the beginning of growth but was soon apparent in the widely scattered weak growth. Thorny blackberries such as Illini Hardi did much better and harvested a full crop in a scarce market for good prices.

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

October 15, Fourth Annual Raspberry and Blackberry High Tunnel Tour, Ithaca, NY. Cornell University invites you to attend the fourth annual Raspberry and Blackberry High Tunnel Open House to observe primocane-fruiting raspberries and blackberries, and the growth that can be obtained with black raspberries and thornless blackberries under a

high tunnel. For more information contact Cathy Heidenreich, mcm4@cornell.edu, 315-787-2367.

Nov.6 OSU Winegrower's Educational Meeting, OARDC-Wooster. More information to follow. Featured speakers include: Dr Paolo Sabatini, Viticulturist @ Michigan State University and Justine Vander Heuvel, Assistant Professor of Viticulture @ Cornell University.

Nov. 8-10, The Southeast Strawberry Expo. Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Sponsored by the North Carolina Strawberry Association, the Expo draws growers from as far away as Texas and Maine. This year's Expo includes two intensive workshops (one for new strawberry plasticulture growers and one focusing on the economics of strawberry production), a tour of the Vollmer Farm, educational sessions, and a trade show. For more information, contact the NC Strawberry Association, info@ncstrawberry.com, www.ncstrawberry.com, phone 919-542-4037, or write NCSA 1138 Rock Rest Rd, Pittsboro, NC 27312.

Nov. 19, Wildlife Control Workshop, OSU South Centers, Picketon, 6-8 p.m., \$5 registration fee, (740) 289-2071.

Dec. 7, North American Strawberry Growers Association Annual Meeting, DeVos Place Convention Center, Grand Rapids, Mich. For more information info@nasga.org.

Dec. 8-10 Great Lakes Fruit Vegetable and Farm Market Expo. DeVos Place Convention Center, Grand Rapids, MI. For more information www.gleexpo.com.

2010

Jan. 3-5, 2010 Wisconsin Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Conference, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells.

Jan. 4-5, 2010 Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference and Trade Show. Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington, KY. Contact John Strang 859-257-5685.

Jan 6-8, Illinois Specialty Crops and Agritourism Conference. Crowne Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Springfield, Ill. For more information contact Diane Handley 309-557-2107, or handley@ilbf.org.

Jan 7-10, Southeast Regional Fruit and Vegetable Conference, Savannah International Convention Center. For more information see www.gfvga.org.

Jan18-20, OPGMA Congress, The Nia Center at the Kalahari Resort, Sandusky, OH. For more information www.opgma.org or opgma@ofa.org

January 25-27, 2010. Empire State Fruit and vegetable EXPO. NYS Farmer's Direct Marketing Association Annual Conference. OnCenter, Syracuse, NY. More information coming soon.

February 2-4, 2010. Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention, Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA. For more information visit <http://www.mafvc.org/html/>.

Feb 5-12, NAFDMA's 25th Anniversary Convention, Lancaster PA. more information to follow.

February 24-26, The North American Raspberry & Blackberry Conference. Monterey, California. Pre/post conference tours are also being planned. This is the annual meeting of the North American Raspberry & Blackberry Association (formerly called the North American Bramble Growers Association). The host hotel is the Beach Resort Monterey (www.montereybeachresort.com). For further information about sponsoring, exhibiting, or attending, contact NARBA, 1138 Rock Rest Rd., Pittsboro, NC 27312, 919-542-4037, info@raspberryblackberry.com, www.raspberryblackberry.com.

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