



Newsletter

Extension

Fruit ICM News

Volume 5, No. 4
February 2, 2001

In This Issue:

[Calendar](#)

[Blueberries](#)

[Proper Pruning to Reduce Blueberry Fruit Rot](#)

[Insect Control News](#)

[New Secretary of US Dept of Agriculture](#)

[Market Loss Assistance Program Sign-Up Delay](#)

[Useful Web Sites & News Groups for Growers](#)

[USDA Organic Standards Update](#)

[Preliminary Monthly Climatological Data for January 2001](#)

Calendar

February 7-9, 2001: Ohio Fruit Growers Society Congress, in conjunction with the Ohio Vegetable and Potato Growers Association, Ohio Direct Marketing Association, and The Ohio State University will be held in Toledo at the Seagate Centre and Radisson Hotel.

March 10: Ohio Berry Growers School, OSU Piketon Research and Extension Center, Piketon, Ohio. Presenters for this year's school include Dr. Barclay Poling (North Carolina State University), Dr. Fumiomi Takeda (USDA Appalachian Fruit Research Station), and Peter Bierman and Brad Bergefurd (OSU Piketon). For more information call Brad Bergefurd at (740) 289-3727 or e-mail at bergefurd.1@osu.edu

Editor's Note: [We will not publish next week, as we will be attending the Fruit & Vegetable Congress in Toledo. See you there!](#)

Blueberries

Source: Massachusetts Berry Notes, January 2001, Volume 13, No. 1

Michigan Blueberry Web Resources can be found at:

<http://www.msue.msu.edu/vanburen/bluebweb.htm>

Topics to be found at this site include:

- Hints on Growing Blueberries
- Blueberry Varieties for Michigan
- Blueberry Diseases in Michigan
- Common Blueberry Insect Pests
- Managing Highbush Blueberry Nutrition
- N-P-K Fertilizers
- Blueberries 101 - An Introduction to Blueberry Growth

Pest Fact Sheets:

- Blueberry Maggot
- Cranberry Fruitworm
- Cherry Fruitworm
- Plum Curculio
- Obliquebanded Leafroller
- Blueberry Fungicide efficacy in Michigan.

Other MSUE information posted elsewhere:

- Blueberry Citation Database by Cindy Cook

Articles below are from the MSU Fruit CAT Alert:

- "Nutrient Deficiencies in Blueberry" by Eric Hanson.
- "Gibberellic Acid to Increase Blueberry Fruit Set" by Eric Hanson
- "Ground Cover and Frost Hazard in Blueberries" by Eric Hanson
- "Pruning to Reduce Disease" by Eric Hanson
- "Fungicide Trials in Blueberries" by Annemiek Schilder
- "Control Options for Japanese Beetle in Blueberries" by John Wise

Proper Pruning to Reduce Blueberry Fruit Rot

Source: Eric Hanson and Annemiek Schilder, Michigan State University's Fruit Crop Advisory Team Alert, Volume 15, No. 1, March 28, 2000

Many blueberry growers have difficulty achieving adequate control of fruit rots. Levels of anthracnose rot, in particular, are often a problem even when appropriate fungicide spray programs are followed. Growers should not neglect the importance of proper pruning in anthracnose management. Important sources of inoculum for anthracnose are twigs and stems, especially old fruiting twigs that were infected the previous year. The fungus overwinters in these twigs, and in the spring and summer, produces spores that can infect the fruit.

Pruning out old canes helps to remove some of this inoculum. Pruning also opens up the canopy of the bush to air and light. This may reduce rots by decreasing humidity within the bush and allowing plant

surfaces to dry more quickly. A more open canopy also improves fungicide spray penetration and distribution within the bush.

Fruit rot reductions due to pruning were demonstrated in a recent study in an older Jersey field in Muskegon, Michigan. Over four years, moderate to heavy pruning reduced anthracnose levels by 0 to 80 percent, depending on the year and harvest. Averaged across all years and harvests, moderate pruning reduced anthracnose levels by about 15 percent compared to light pruning. Heavy pruning usually did not reduce anthracnose levels over moderate pruning and was also associated with yield reductions. *Alternaria* and *Botrytis* fruit rot levels were not affected by pruning. Regular, moderate pruning of blueberry bushes is recommended to help reduce anthracnose fruit rot.

Insect Control News

Source: Celeste Welty, OSU Extension Entomologist

Avaunt 30 WDG (water dispersible granules) was registered in December 2000 for use on apples, pears, and some vegetable crops. It is a DuPont product with the active ingredient indoxacarb. The target pests are mainly caterpillars. Avaunt has been designated as a reduced risk product by the EPA. The main mode of entry into insects is by ingestion, and there is some contact activity. The mode of action is by blocking sodium ion entry into nerve cells, which results in paralysis and death. Feeding stops within 0 to 4 hours after ingestion. Avaunt provides 5-14 days of residual control. It is not systemic. The rate on apple and pear is 5 to 6 oz per acre. There is a limit of 4 applications per season. The preharvest interval is 28 days, and the re-entry interval is 12 hours. Target pests on apple and pear are codling moth, oriental fruit moth, and redbanded leafroller. Additional pests on apple are tufted apple budmoth, plum curculio, apple maggot, tarnished plant bug, white apple leafhopper, and potato leafhopper. Avaunt gives excellent control of plum curculio and apple maggot, which many of the other new insecticides do not control. It has low toxicity to beneficial insects.

Two new products marketed by Rohm and Haas Company are a major breakthrough in the pest management strategy known as mating disruption. Mating disruption by pheromones has been available for some fruit pests such as Oriental fruit moth for about 10 years, but until now they have been manually dispensed in the orchard, with the twist-tie style made by Pacific Biocontrol the most commonly used product. New in 2001 are sprayable pheromones for mating disruption. These products are made in Canada by 3M Company and marketed by Rohm and Haas. Each is a timed-release micro-encapsulated pheromone concentrate that is mixed with water and applied with conventional ground or aerial application equipment.

One product is called "3M Sprayable Pheromone, Mating Disruption for Oriental Fruit Moth", which is used at 1.7 to 2.5 fl oz per acre. The number of applications is two per generation of the pest. The first application should be applied just before the start of the flight period. The second application should be 2 to 3 weeks later. A second product is called "3M Sprayable Pheromone, Mating Disruption for Leafrollers", which controls obliquebanded leafroller and Pandemis leafroller; Pandemis is not a pest in the eastern half of the USA. The rate for leafroller is 3.4 to 6.8 fl oz per acre. The number and timing of applications is the same as for Oriental fruit moth.

A product that has been registered since 1998 but overlooked in previous updates is "Last Call CM" for control of codling moth by pheromones but in a different way than mating disruption. "Last Call CM" uses the technology known as "attract and kill". It is a bait that combines a pheromone to attract male

moths and an insecticide (permethrin) that has rapid knockdown activity. It is made by IPM Technologies of Portland, Oregon. The product comes in a hand-held applicator tube that has a calibrated pump that produces 50-microliter droplets. Each drop contains the amount of pheromone found in one real female moth. As the male moth finds and contacts the droplet, it picks up a lethal dose of permethrin. Twelve hundred evenly spaced droplets are needed per acre, with most placed in the upper third of the canopy. One application provides 6 weeks of protection. The product should be applied 8 days after biofix as determined by a pheromone trap.

New Secretary of U.S. Department of Agriculture

Source: <http://www.fruitgrowersnews.com>

The transition to the Administration of President George W. Bush will bring new policy officials to the Department of Agriculture, beginning with the appointment of Ann Veneman, who was confirmed by the Senate and sworn in as the 27th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture on January 20, 2001. She is the first woman to serve as Secretary of Agriculture, replacing former Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman.

From 1986 to 1993 Veneman served USDA in several posts, becoming USDA's first female deputy secretary -- for international affairs and commodities -- in 1991. From 1995 to 1999, she served as agriculture secretary in California, the nation's top farm-producing state.

Secretary Veneman pledges to foster "an atmosphere of teamwork, innovation, mutual respect, and common sense within the Department and focus our delivery systems on quality service to our customers."

Market Loss Assistance Program Sign-Up Delayed Until Mid-February

Source: US Apple via John Wargowsky - Ohio Fruit Growers Society

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) informed the US Apple Association that it would not be able to meet the February 1 implementation date for the \$100 million market loss assistance payment program for apple growers. USDA indicated that it is now targeting mid-February for initiating the sign-up period, which is expected to last six weeks. The US Apple Association recently conveyed the urgency of implementing the assistance program in a letter to newly confirmed Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman. Sign-up was originally to have commenced January 18, according to a news release issued by outgoing Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman on December 5, 2000.

US Apple encourages growers to contact their senators and their congressional representative to request their assistance in prompting USDA to provide our nation's beleaguered apple growers with the assistance promised to them by Congress, as soon as humanly possible. For information on how to contact your representative, please visit the House of Representative's website at <http://www.house.gov/house/MemberWWW.html>

Contact information for senators is available at <http://www.senate.gov>

Useful Web Sites and News Groups For Fruit Growers

Source: The Illinois Fruit and Vegetable News, Volume 7, No. 1, January 31, 2001

The applecrop news group: you subscribe, then questions and answers from the group come directly to your email address. You can be an active participant or just a reader. To subscribe, send an email message to apple-crop@virtualorchard.net In the subject line of your email message header, type the word "subscribe" (without the quotation marks), then send the blank message. You should receive confirmation that you have subscribed, and email messages will come to you as they are posted to the group.

The Virtual Orchard: information on tree fruit production and insect, disease, and weed management, along with links to several newsletters at <http://virtualorchard.net/default.html>

Washington State University Tree Fruit Information: <http://fruit.wsu.edu>

West Virginia University, Kearneysville Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center:
<http://www.caf.wvu.edu/kearneysville/wvufarm1.html>

Midwest Small Fruit and Grape Net: <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~sfgnet/>

Diagnosing berry problems: a site developed by Marvin Pritts at <http://www.hort.cornell.edu> then select "Commercial Fruit", then select "Berries".

Rhubarb: <http://www.rhubarbinfo.com/index.html>

Fruit newsletters:

Rutgers (New Jersey): <http://www.virtualorchard.net/rce/plantpest/default.html>

Cornell (New York): <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/scaffolds/>

Purdue: <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/fff/fff.html>

These newsletters include links to picture sheets, fact sheets, and lots of additional information !!!

Books on the web: *A Growers Guide To Apple Insects and Diseases In The Southeast*
<http://ipmwww.ncsu.edu/apple/contents.html>

Midwest Small Fruit Pest Management Handbook <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~ohioline/b861/index.html>

The (Midwest State's) 2001 Commercial Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide
<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/hort/ext/sfg/>

For fruit and vegetable growers: Posted on the Virtual Orchard is the presentation "How to Build a Web Presence for their Business", which may be of interest to growers and extension agents.

<http://virtualorchard.net/webmarketing/vganjbusinessdefault.html%20>

Excellent color illustrations of weeds: from the Weed Science Society of America

<http://ext.agn.uiuc.edu/wssa/subpages/weed/herbarium0.html>

For vegetable growers, the vegetable production news group you subscribe, then questions and answers from the group come directly to your email address. You can be an active participant or just a reader. To subscribe, send a message to veg-prod@maat.ree.usda.gov. In the subject line of your email message header, type the word "subscribe" (without the quotation marks), then send the blank message. You should receive confirmation that you have subscribed, and email messages will come to you as they are posted to the group.

Vegetable production web sites: Last year a vegetable production news group subscriber asked for people's favorite web sites relevant to vegetable production. Richard Molinar of California offered this list, and although it's a bit heavy on California listings, growers may find it useful:

Integrated Pest Management: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>

Small Farm Center: <http://www.sfc.ucdavis.edu>

Vegetable Crops Information: <http://vric.ucdavis.edu>

Fruit and vegetable postharvest information: <http://postharvest.ucdavis.edu>

Pomology topics: <http://fruitsandnuts.ucdavis.edu>

Sustainable agriculture: <http://www.sarep.ucdavis.edu>

Purdue's new crop information: <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/newcrop>

Prices at US terminal markets: <http://gnv.ifas.ufl.edu/~marketing/market.html>

Missouri Alternatives Center: <http://agebb.missouri.edu/mac/index.htm>

San Francisco Wholesale Market Listings: <http://www.sfproduce.org/home.html>

Other Midwest newsletters on vegetable crops and pest management:

Purdue: <http://www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/targets/newslett.htm>

Ohio State: <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~vegnet/>

Minnesota: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/vegipm/>

Iowa State: <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm/>

USDA Organic Standards Update

The USDA has finally unveiled a comprehensive national standard for organic production. It has been nearly one decade since Congress mandated that fruits, vegetables, and meats grown without pesticides or hormones carry consumer-friendly labels. The USDA press release about this comprehensive national standard can be read at: <http://www.usda.gov/news/releases/2000/12/0425.htm>

Information about the history of the new rule and background and history about the National Organic Program can be obtained at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop>

Preliminary Monthly Climatological Data for Selected Ohio Locations January 2001

Weather Station Location	Monthly Precip	Normal Monthly Precip	Year-to-Date Precip	Normal Year-to-Date Precip	Average High	Normal High	Average Low	Normal Low	Mean Temp.	Normal Mean
Akron-Canton	1.46	2.16	32.1	32.6	20.7	16.9	26.4	24.8		
Cincinnati	1.33	2.59	37.5	36.6	21.8	19.5	29.7	28.1		
Cleveland	1.59	2.04	32.9	31.9	22.4	17.6	27.6	24.7		
Columbus	1.31	2.18	35.5	34.1	21.9	18.5	28.7	26.3		
Dayton	0.84	2.13	34.9	34.1	21.3	17.9	28.1	26.0		
Mansfield	1.23	1.98	32.3	32.1	20.5	16.8	26.4	24.5		
Norwalk	0.73	1.90	33.9	31.9	22.0	15.3	28.0	23.7		
Toledo	0.78	1.75	31.9	30.2	20.0	14.9	26.0	22.5		
Wooster	0.71	1.95	34.4	34.9	21.8	18.5	28.1	26.6		
Youngstown	1.21	2.13	32.6	30.7	21.2	16.4	26.9	23.6		

Temperatures in degrees F, Precipitation in inches.

The Ohio Fruit ICM News is edited by:

Ted W. Gastier
 Extension Agent, Agriculture
 Tree Fruit Team Coordinator
 Ohio State University Extension Huron County
 180 Milan Avenue
 Norwalk, OH 44857
 Phone: (419)668-8210

FAX: (419)663-4233

E-mail: gastier.1@osu.edu

Information presented above and where trade names are used, they are supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by Ohio State University Extension is implied. Although every attempt is made to produce information that is complete, timely, and accurate, the pesticide user bears responsibility of consulting the pesticide label and adhering to those directions.

Copyright © The Ohio State University 2001

All educational programs conducted by Ohio State University Extension are available to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender, age, disability or Vietnam-era veteran status.

Keith L. Smith, Associate Vice President for Ag. Adm. and Director, OSU Extension.

TDD No. 800-589-8292 (Ohio only) or 614-292-1868

| [Back](#) |