



Newsletter Extension

Fruit ICM News

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Calendar

January 10, 2002: MSU Bramble School, Kalamazoo, Michigan. For more information contact Al Gaus at 616-944-4126, Bob Tritten at 810-732-2177, or Gary Thornton at 231-946-1510.

January 28-30, 2002: Indiana Horticultural Congress, Indianapolis. For more details visit <http://www.hort.purdue.edu>.

Cold Acclimation in Strawberries: How Strawberries Get Ready For Winter

Source: The All Ontario Berry Grower, Volume #0.10 - October/2001 via Massachusetts Berry Notes, Nov. 2001. Adapted by Pam Fisher from a presentation by Dr. Rebecca Darnell, OBGA Conference, 1996

The process of developing tolerance to cold temperatures is called acclimation. Cold acclimation in strawberries begins when days get shorter in late summer. Short days alone will trigger strawberries to develop tolerance to -2°C or -3°C. For further acclimation, plants must be subjected to cold

temperatures, i.e. days of about 10°C and nights around 0°C. Photosynthesis is also required for cold acclimation to occur, so plants which are mulched before these conditions have been met will not be as winter-hardy.

Even when fully acclimated, or "hardened-off for winter," strawberry plants are not as tolerant of cold temperatures as other perennial fruit crops. Cold injury to crowns appears as browning of crown tissue. Crowns will be killed at temperatures of minus 12°C to minus 14°C in the crown, but even tissue temperatures of minus 6°C can lead to reduced leaf number, leaf distortion, and fewer flowers and fruit.

The extent of cold-temperature injury in strawberries is determined by many factors. These include the extent of cold acclimation, the cultivar, the part of the plant affected, the rate and duration of freezing, and cultural practices. Rapid freezes, when tissue temperatures drop 2-3 degrees per hour, are fatal. Although the duration of freeze also affects how much injury occurs, most injury occurs in the first 24 hours of damaging temperatures. Freeze/thaw/freeze cycles will also cause more injury than consistently cold temperatures, if the thaw lasts more than 2-3 days.

Nutrient and water status of strawberry plants also affects cold acclimation. Excess or deficient nitrogen will inhibit acclimation, while optimum levels of phosphorous promote acclimation. Plants acclimated under dry conditions fare better than plants that are not water-stressed. Mulching is also important to prevent cold-temperature injury. Raised beds can be 4-6°C colder than flat beds, but mulching overcomes most of this negative effect.

Winter Mulch for Strawberries

Source: Patrick Byers, University of Missouri, The Berry Basket, Vol. 4, No. 3, Fall 2001 via the Massachusetts Berry Notes Nov. 2001

Fall is here, and an important fall job in a strawberry planting is mulching. While commercial strawberry production extends into colder climates, such as the northern US and Canada, the strawberry plant is actually vulnerable to cold injury at relatively warm temperatures. The key to consistent production in cold climates, such as Missouri, is mulching. Research in Ohio and elsewhere has shown that the crowns of non-mulched strawberry plants can suffer damage after winter temperatures below 12°F. Unprotected strawberry plants are also vulnerable to desiccation damage from drying winter winds. The disease black root rot is more severe in non-mulched plantings.

Winter mulch offers several benefits for a strawberry planting. The mulch protects plants from severe cold. Desiccation is a problem, especially after winter temperature fluctuations, and mulch will protect plants from drying out. Mulches will also protect plants from injury caused by soil heaving, which results from freezing/ thawing cycles during the winter.

When should the strawberry grower plan to apply mulch? Research from Illinois suggests that a good guide is to apply mulch after three consecutive days with a soil temperature of 40°F. This soil temperature usually occurs after several frosts, and the plants have slowed growth in response to cooler temperatures. Apply mulches before the soil freezes. In Missouri, mulches are usually applied in late November.

Production systems for strawberries in Missouri are undergoing changes that affect mulching. Plants on raised beds, for example, are more vulnerable to cold injury than plants in level plantings. Annual

production systems, such as fall planted plasticulture, may utilize less hardy or disease susceptible cultivars. As we will see, mulching practices must adapt to these new systems.

The traditional mulching material for strawberries in Missouri is straw. Straws from wheat, rice, oats, or Sudan grass work well. Straws coarser than Sudan grass are not recommended. A good straw source will deliver straw that is clean, free from weed seed, and contains a minimum of grain seed. Strawberry growers can produce their own mulch, often cutting the straw before the grain seed is viable. Store straw for mulching in a dry area. Occasionally, grain seedlings can become a weed problem the following spring; an application of sethoxydim will give good control.

A traditional, level matted row planting will require 2.5 to 3 tons of straw per acre for a 2 to 3 inch deep mulch. This equates to about 300 small bales of average weight. Raised bed plantings may require twice this amount for adequate coverage. Smaller plantings may be mulched by hand. Larger plantings often use bale choppers to break up the straw bales and distribute the straw over the bed. Choppers are available for both small bales and large round bales. Plasticulture plantings of cultivars such as Chandler are usually not mulched with straw.

A recent development of great interest to strawberry producers concerns floating row covers. These covers are composed of a plastic such as polypropylene, spun-bonded into a fabric that is permeable to light, air, and water. Research and growers' experiences demonstrate that these covers are useful for winter protection of strawberry plantings. While floating row covers are available in several weights, only the heavier weights are recommended for winter protection. At present a widely available weight recommended for winter strawberry protection is 1.25 oz/yd² (42 g/m²). A variety of fabric widths are available, with common widths ranging from 15 feet to 60 feet. This material currently costs about 4 cents per square foot. With proper care, this heavier fabric should last 3-4 seasons. Floating row covers are widely used to protect annual plasticulture plantings.

Row covers are best applied on still days. Be sure to line up sufficient labor to place the row cover. If possible, use wider widths for more efficient application. The row cover edges must be anchored, as must areas where two covers overlap. A variety of methods are used to anchor the edges. Edges may be anchored with posts, rocks, or tube sand. The edges may also be covered with soil.

Once the mulch is in place, the job is not done for the winter. Monitor the planting frequently. If straw has blown off areas, replace at once. Watch the edges of row covers, and adjust anchors if needed. Repair any rips or holes as soon as possible.

Primocane-fruiting Raspberries Continue to Fruit Without Chilling in Greenhouses

Source: Adam Dale, University of Guelph, The All Ontario Berry Grower, Volume #0.11 - November/2001 via the Massachusetts Berry Notes Nov. 2001

Recently, my research team has completed a major commitment to investigate the feasibility of growing raspberries year-round in the greenhouse. Our economic estimates suggest that this could be profitable in Ontario. We thought that primocane-fruiting varieties offered considerable potential as we would be able to fruit them for long periods of time without moving the plants in and out of the greenhouse at regular intervals, and we would be able to grow them in the greenhouse from start to finish. Raspberries

normally need a cool period in winter to break dormancy and fruit, but we did not know how long we could keep primocane-fruiting raspberries bearing before we needed to give them a cool period. In one set of experiments, we looked at the performance of a group of primocane-fruiting (fall-bearing) raspberries over a three-year period with and without a cold period.

We used seven primocane-fruiting varieties: Anne, Autumn Bliss, Autumn Britten, Caroline, Heritage, Polana, and Summit. Plants were potted in one gallon grow-bags in a commercial mixture of peat, vermiculite, perlite, dolomitic limestone, and bentonite clay. After the first growing season, Autumn Bliss was discarded because the fruit was crumbly. Plants were grown above 6°C at night and 20°C during the day, trickle irrigated twice daily, and fertilized regularly with slow-release fertilizer. The flowers were pollinated by bumble bees, and spider mites and thrips were controlled with predators.

In the spring of 1997, between 30 and 54 plants of each variety were placed in a randomized complete block design of six replicates in the greenhouse and were fruited until December, when all the canes were removed and the pots divided into two sets. All but one plant per replicate of each variety were placed in a cooler. The plants remaining were left in the greenhouse and fruited until December 1999 (no cold period for three years). The plants in the cooler were moved outside on May 8, 1998 and brought in to the greenhouse on August 19, 1998 and fruited until December 1999 (no cold period for two years).

Over the three-year period, the plants that were given a cold period in the winter of 1998 produced fruit in all three years. Polana was the highest yielding variety and Autumn Britten had the largest fruits (Table 1). In the first year, Autumn Britten was the earliest fruiting variety, after the cold period in the second year, Autumn Britten and Polana were the earliest, and in the third year, without a cold period, Polana fruited the earliest (Table 1).

The fruiting patterns of the varieties differed considerably. Autumn Britten showed a much more continuous fruiting pattern. In the plants that had been given a cold period, all varieties produced a fall peak in 1998 and summer and fall peaks in 1999. However, Autumn Britten produced at least two fruits per plant for 68% of the time compared to 39% of the time in Heritage. Where the plants were not given a cold period for three years, both Polana and Autumn Britten produced a summer and a fall peak in both years, but Autumn Britten produced a third peak in the winter of 1999.

For greenhouse production of primocane-fruiting varieties, we consider that earliness is the most important characteristic because it increases the harvesting period. This is crucial, due to the high energy and capital costs. We consider that only Autumn Britten and Polana are suitable for greenhouse production because of their earliness.

Although primocane-fruiting raspberries can be successfully fruited without a cold period, the varieties used here produced little fruit during the winter period. Therefore, we feel that with the present varieties, it is not cost effective to fruit continually without a cold period as fruit production is low during the period when both energy cost and raspberry prices are high. However, we feel that primocane-fruiting varieties can be bred which have low cold requirements so that they will fruit for February onwards.

Table 1. Yield, mean berry weight and days to 5% harvest in six Primocane-fruiting raspberry varieties in 1997-1999

Variety	Average Marketable Yield -g/cane/year	Average Berry Weight - g/Berry	Relative Days to Yield 5% Harvest		
			1997	1998	1999
Polana	641	2.4	26 Aug	29 Aug	13 May

Summit	516	2.2	25 Aug	16 Sept	14 June
Autumn Britten	447	3.4	9 Aug	2 Sept	5 June
Anne	443	3.3	26 Aug	19 Sept	12 July
Caroline	419	2.5	24 Aug	19 Sept	12 July
Heritage	372	2.2	8 Sept	22 Sept	1 Aug

Highbush Blueberries: Reviewing the Basics

Source: Ben Fuqua, University of Missouri, The Berry Basket, Vol. 4, No. 3, Fall 2001 via Massachusetts Berry Notes, Nov. 2001

New and potential growers of highbush blueberries in Missouri need to become acquainted with the "Basics" of blueberry culture before starting a planting. Blueberries are unique plants that require rather specific soil conditions for best growth and production. Being aware of these requirements and making appropriate adjustments prior to setting plants in the ground can often save time, money, and many headaches.

1. Marketing Strategies: A marketing plan should be the first step for anyone considering a commercial blueberry planting. A sound, well-planned marketing scheme is often the difference between success and failure of a blueberry operation. Nothing is more frustrating than seeing blueberry bushes loaded with ripe, high quality berries and having no buyers. A good marketing plan incorporates several factors including:

- the number of potential customers within a 25-30 mile radius of your planting,
- the number and acreage of other blueberry growers in the same general area,
- the type of market preferred (i.e. U-Pick, on-farm markets, farmers' markets),
- the availability of labor (especially during harvest),
- facilities (cold storage, weighing and selling areas, parking),
- advertising outlets, and the location of the market in relation to the consumer.

Adding "value-added" goods expands the marketing plan by offering processed blueberry products throughout the year.

2. Site/soil selection: Selecting a good site for blueberry plants is one of the most important decisions a grower has to make. The large capital investment at the time of establishment and the fact that blueberry plants produce fruit for many years makes site selection and site preparation crucial decisions.

An "ideal" site for highbush blueberries will have a well-drained, low pH soil that has a high organic matter content. The site should be exposed to full sunlight, have good air circulation, and have access to water for irrigation. The planting site should also be conveniently located in respect to other buildings or facilities of the blueberry operation.

3. Site preparation: Site preparation should start one to two years before planting, as most sites require some slight modification(s) to prepare the soil for growing blueberries. Perennial weeds, such as

Johnsongrass and Bermuda grass should be completely eradicated from the site by chemical and/or mechanical means. Soil samples should be taken to determine the soil pH and other nutrient levels. Soil organic matter content can be increased by incorporating residues from cover crops, such as sudan, millet, rye, or wheat into the proposed plant rows. Forming berms, or raised beds, for plant rows will improve drainage around the plants.

Sulfur, fertilizers, and other amendments needed to correct pH or nutrient deficiencies in the soil should be done at least 6 months prior to plant establishment.

4. Variety/plant selection: Growers should select blueberry varieties that are adapted to Missouri climates and meet the objectives of their marketing plan. Most growers in Missouri prefer early-season and mid-season varieties that ripen from early June to mid-July. Growers wanting to extend the blueberry season can add a late-maturing variety that produces ripe fruit from mid-July to mid-August. All plants should be purchased from reputable, certified nurseries. Two-year old potted or bare rooted plants normally have an extensive enough root system to survive being transplanted directly to the field. Buying older, larger plants cannot generally be justified because of the higher costs for plants, transportation, and planting.

One-year rooted cuttings cost less than the older plants, but should not be planted directly in the field. Rooted cuttings need to be grown in pots for an additional year to develop a larger root system before being planted.

5. Planting: Transplanting the blueberry plants to the field can be done in either fall or spring. The planting hole (or trench) should be large enough to hold approximately one gallon of wet peat moss in addition to the mass of plant roots. Soil around individual plants should be compacted slightly to insure good root to soil contact and eliminate air pockets. Blueberry plants need to be mulched with sawdust or similar materials as soon as possible after planting. An irrigation system must also be installed at or shortly after planting to provide supplemental water as needed.

6. Requirements after establishment: Several other operational procedures must be done each year to maintain healthy, highly productive blueberry plants. Mulches must be replenished every one to two years in order to maintain a 4- to 6-inch depth of mulch around the plants. Irrigation pumps, filters, and lines require regular maintenance and repair in order to supply supplemental water to plants during the growing season. Weed control is a year-round challenge. While mulches help reduce weed problems, chemical and/or mechanical control methods are needed almost every year. Annual pruning of blueberry bushes during late winter/early spring is necessary to sustain healthy, vigorous plants capable of producing high yields of large-sized berries. Blueberry plants will also need fertilizing, via organic or chemical fertilizers, periodically throughout the growing season.

Summary: Highbush blueberry plants have proven to be a profitable and fun crop for Missouri growers. Growers have done an excellent job of producing high yields of quality berries. Growers have also done an outstanding job of selling "Missouri-grown blueberries" to the public as evidenced by the high demand for fresh and processed blueberries. The basic information on growing blueberries in Missouri has evolved over the 25 years of blueberry production within the state. Both Missouri blueberry growers and researchers have contributed to developing these guidelines. Thus, all growers, even the experienced ones, should occasionally review the "basics" for growing blueberries in Missouri.

Grapes -Drought and Potassium Deficiency:

Brothers in Arms

Source: Hans Walter-Peterson, Cornell University, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Crop Update, October 9, 2001 via the Massachusetts Berry Notes Nov. 2001

As I've been riding harvesters and walking fields with growers this past month or so, I have noticed some symptoms of potassium deficiency, which can often be associated with drought conditions and water stress in vines. While potassium deficiency symptoms can resemble those of other problems, there are a few things that you can look for to decide whether or not the symptoms are due to a lack of potassium.

First of all, symptoms of potassium deficiency will first develop in the basal leaves of a shoot. This is because the vine will mobilize potassium stored in the older leaves in order to provide the growing shoot tip with enough to continue its growth. This fact is useful when looking at leaf symptoms to decide if they are due to this deficiency or another problem that may affect the entire shoot.

The most common symptom of potassium deficiency is yellowing of the basal or mid-shoot leaves, starting at the edges of the leaves. Under more severe deficiencies, the margins may turn brown as the tissue dies.

Another symptom of potassium deficiency is what's called "black leaf." On the upper surface of the leaf, you will see the development of black or dark purple splotches between the veins on the basal or mid-shoot leaves. In more severe cases, the leaf may be completely dark purple or black except for the veins of the leaf.

Potassium deficiencies may show up in low-rainfall years for a couple of reasons: 1) the lack of water in the soil prevents movement of potassium towards the roots, and 2) root growth is generally reduced under drought conditions, so the vine isn't "reaching out" for those nutrients as effectively. Both of these factors can contribute to potassium problems during dry years. In addition, because vine photosynthesis decreases under drought conditions, there is less "pull" on the water and nutrients from the soil into the plant. The more severe examples of drought and potassium problems I saw were also generally on more gravelly soils, where water-holding capacity is not as high.

If you're noticing these kinds of symptoms out in your vineyards, there are a couple of things to think about before deciding to add a bunch of potash to your soil to increase the potassium in your vines. Consider what you have seen in such areas in the past. Have you noticed these symptoms in this area before? What kind of soil is in that area (gravel, silt, clay)? With the low rainfall during the season this year, potassium deficiency in the vines does not necessarily mean that your soil is deficient in it as well. Consult any soil and/or petiole samples you may have taken in previous years from areas that look questionable. Have there been potassium issues there before? In other words, think about any deficiency symptoms you see in the context of both the dry weather we had this year and your past experience with the vineyard's potassium needs. If you're seeing these symptoms on a well-drained site for the first time, it may not be necessary to change the amount of potash that you apply.

Unfortunately, the time for taking petiole samples to determine potassium status in your vines is past us. The best time to take these samples is around 70 days (10 weeks) after bloom, from leaves that are located about midway down the shoot. These leaves are good indicators because, under deficient conditions, they will have sent potassium to the younger leaves and shoot tip and will therefore have lower potassium levels in their tissues.

This situation is an excellent example of why both soil and petiole samples are important in order to get the full story on the nutrient status of your vineyard. Basing fertilization decisions only on petiole samples may result in spending time and money on fertilizer applications that your soil doesn't need (and may lose by leaching). On the other hand, soil samples cannot tell you if the vines are obtaining sufficient nutrients for proper fruit and vegetative development. Both can be important tools for establishing or refining a fertilization system for your vineyards.

Stalking England's Antique Gooseberries

Source: Steve McKay, Cornell Cooperative Extension, The Ribes Reporter, Vol. 13, Issue 1, August, 2001 via Massachusetts Berry Notes Nov. 2001

As the years have passed, so have memories of the many varieties of gooseberries that were once widely available to home gardeners and fruit farmers. Most people in the US vaguely remember their grandparents talking about gooseberry pie, or might remember trying the berries in the garden, and having their mouths puckered by the sourness. The good news is that thanks to the efforts of a handful of English nurserymen, the Royal Horticultural Society, and a few other sites, the germplasm of over 200 of the 1,500 varieties of the past is preserved. Even in England, the once popular fruit is often hard to find commercially, except in a few markets, and then only the hard, sour, culinary type.

Cooperative Extension, and some assistance from fund raising efforts at the Chatham Fair (New York), have made it possible to research the potential of this fruit and discover some opportunities for our local growers. On July 13 I returned from a week long trip to England and Scotland, which allowed me to attend the International Ribes-Rubus Conference, and to collect samples of about 140 different varieties of gooseberries. The fruit is being used for photographs, a series of showings, and flavor evaluation. The meeting in Scotland allowed me to connect with growers from New Zealand, Spain, Chile, and Great Britain who would like to develop international standards and marketing materials for gooseberries.

So why all the excitement? People are finally realizing how diverse the selection in gooseberries is when one looks at flavor, color, texture, and size of the fruit. Most of the varieties are over 100 years old, and have interesting names and stories associated. Names like 'Dan's Mistake', and 'Lancashire Lad', 'High Sheriff', 'Broomgirl', 'Hedgehog', 'Viper', and 'Heart of Oak' let the mind wander. I like to think of the berries as falling into four general color groups, red, yellow, green, and white. Some are hairy, and some are smooth; some are round, and some are teardrop- shaped. Size can be classified as small (pea to kidney bean sized), or large (quarter to small plum sized).

Flavor is the next item of interest; people always ask me if the flavors are distinct. The answer is that most all ripe gooseberries give the same initial sensation in the mouth. There is a burst of sweet as the juice flows out, which is quickly balanced by the sour flavor of the skin. In a moment later, the distinctive aroma of the berry can be sensed. I have noticed two classes of aroma, a heavy, almost fermented fragrance, or a fresh, light, fruity fragrance. Within these two fragrance groups, there are distinct differences.

When in Scotland, I set up a display of gooseberries that caught the attention of some major fruit marketers from Chile, New Zealand, Spain, and England. Their attention was drawn to the berries, and after some informal conversation, we agreed that it would be nice to standardize a group of gooseberries for international trade. The idea is that a group of varieties that fall into each of the color and size classes will be defined so that marketers can buy and sell product internationally and know what they are

talking about. A major advantage to Hudson Valley (NY) growers is that they will have the financial backing to advertise and create demand for the fruit in the US, thus expanding the market. Fruit will be available yearly for a number of weeks at least twice a year, rather than just a couple of weeks. Chefs can use the large varieties as dessert fruit to eat fresh from baskets, and the small varieties for culinary art and cooking.

USApple Garners Final Support

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

The U.S. Apple Association (USApple) has now garnered support for its dues increase plan from all major apple producing states. The Michigan Apple Committee approved the new funding level at its November 6 meeting. It joined Washington, California, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and New York in supporting USApple's new dues structure.

"I am gratified with the continued support of the Michigan Apple Committee for its support of USApple activities," said USApple President and CEO Kraig Naasz, who flew to Michigan to personally make the pitch.

USApple has asked states to double their assessments over the next five years, from four-tenths a bushel to eight-tenths a bushel to bolster its legislative programs and increase its public relations campaign to increase consumption of apples.

Ontario Apple Marketing Commission Disbanded

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

The Ontario Apple Marketing Commission has been disbanded in a move that has apple growers wondering what's next. In late October Brian Coburn, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, disbanded the commission to allow the industry to decide what it is that they want as a structure and/or organization to represent them. His decision came after a vote last winter where 56% of Ontario's apple growers voted to terminate the commission.

Although that vote didn't meet the criteria for terminating the organization, which calls for two-thirds majority, Coburn made the decision to disband based on reports of dissatisfaction among growers, according to Ian MacKenzie, former general manager of the apple commission. The Apple Section of the Ontario Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association (OFVGA) hired MacKenzie on an interim basis, to coordinate the investigation of new opportunities for the industry.

Coburn felt there was enough discontent to warrant a review of the industry and the Apple Marketing Plan to determine the source of the dissatisfaction. The findings of the consultant's report are available on the OMAFRA Web site at <http://www.gov.on.ca/omafra/english/farmproducts>.

Many apple growers protested the disbanding of the commission. Although more than 50% voted in favor to disband, the percentage of those voting represented 46.6% of Ontario's apple acreage and many

growers, representing 25% of the acreage, didn't vote, according to MacKenzie.

MacKenzie said a lot of growers are tired of the residuals they're getting from the sale of their apples that go through packing plants, and there's animosity between packers and growers. Some growers don't see the value of promotions as many growers have PYO and roadside operations where they're doing their own promotions. As in the U.S. apple industry, prices and profits are the main concern.

Ontario growers had been paying \$47.50 per acre to the commission on a mandatory basis. MacKenzie said growers, averaging 30-40 acres, paid between \$1,400 and \$1,900 per year to the commission.

For now, Ontario growers will have to get by without their commission programs and activities. The commission typically spent \$500,000 out of its \$1 million budget on promotion. The commission has done broad-based promotions across Ontario and in the United Kingdom and Mexico to promote northern varieties such as Empire, Golden Delicious, and McIntosh. The commission prepared a suggested price list as a benchmark. The apple commission was also in charge of quality control program and took over a service for delivery of IPM in Ontario orchards. There was four full-time staff at the commission as well as part-time inspectors, according to MacKenzie.

MacKenzie said the next two to three months will be critical in assessing the interest level of growers for a new organization. MacKenzie's first order of business is setting up a grower committee of five members from each of Ontario's apple growing areas to help develop a strategy for the industry. Grower meetings will likely take place the first few weeks of December. Growers will be consulted extensively to find out their interest level for any new organization. If meetings are not well attended the process may stop there, MacKenzie said.

Congress Approves \$75 Million for Growers

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

On Nov. 15, 2001 the U.S. Senate approved the final 2002 agricultural appropriations bill, which provides apple growers with \$75 million in much-needed assistance to compensate for losses suffered during the 2000 crop year. The final bill, which was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives on November 13, is now headed to the White House for President George W. Bush's signature.

Apple industry leaders welcomed the measure's approval as necessary for survival in tough economic times. "America's apple growers have faced devastating economic conditions over the past five years that forced some producers to cut down their trees or abandon their orchards," said U.S. Apple Association (USApple) President and CEO Kraig Naasz, whose group spearheaded efforts to secure the apple assistance funds.

The joint House-Senate agricultural appropriations conference committee agreed November 8 to a compromise agriculture spending bill that provides \$75 million for apple growers. The House of Representative's version of the legislation (H.R. 1330), which it approved July 11, had included \$150 million in market loss assistance for apple growers. The Senate's version of the agricultural spending bill (S. 1191), adopted October 24, did not include assistance for apple growers.

According to USDA statistics, U.S. apple growers have lost \$500 million in the past year, and more than \$1.5 billion over the past five years. Growers have been faced with a variety of adverse conditions,

including unfairly priced imports of apple juice concentrate, high regulatory costs, food retail consolidation, and subsidized foreign competition.

Terminal Market Wholesale Fruit Prices November 15, 2001

Sources:

Chicago http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/HX_FV010.txt

Detroit http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/DU_FV010.txt

Pittsburgh http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/PS_FV010.txt

	Chicago	Detroit	Pittsburgh
Apples, cartons, traypack			
No grade marks Jonathan	MI 88s 16.00 100s 16.00-17.00		
No grade marks Paula Red	MI 88s 16.00 100s 14.00-16.00		
Apples, cartons celpk			
U.S. Extra Fancy Empire		NY 80s 15.00-16.00 100s 15.00-16.00	
U.S. Extra Fancy McIntosh	NY 80s 21.00-22.00 96s 21.00	NY 100s 19.50-20.00 120s 15.50-16.00	NY 100s 15.00
U.S. Fancy McIntosh	WI 96s 20.00-22.00 112s 15.00-16.00		NY 80s 12.00 100s 10.00-12.00 120s 10.00-11.00
U.S. Fancy Paula Red	WI 112s 15.00		
Apples, cartons, 12 3-lb filmbags			
U.S. Fancy Empire		MI 2½" min. 10.00 NY 2½" min. 12.00	PA 2¼" min. 8.50
U.S. Fancy Golden Delicious	MI 2¼" up 11.00		PA 2¼" min. 8.50
U.S. Fancy Idared		MI 2½" min. 10.00	
U.S. Fancy Paula Red	WI 2½" min. 10.50		
U.S. Fancy McIntosh		NY 2½" min. 12.00	NY 2½" min. 9.00- 11.50
U.S. Fancy Red Delicious	MI 2¼" up 10.00	NY 2½" min. 12.00	PA 2½" min. 8.50
U.S. Fancy Rome		MI 2½" min. 10.00	PA 2¼" min. 8.50

U.S. ExFancy Empire		MI 2½" min. 11.50-12.00	
U.S. ExFancy Gala		MI 2½" min. 12.50-13.50	
U.S. ExFancy Golden Delicious		MI 2½" min. 10.00-12.00	
U.S. ExFancy Jonathan		MI 2½" min. 11.50-12.00	
U.S. ExFancy McIntosh		MI 2½" min. 10.00-12.00	
U.S. ExFancy Red Delicious		MI 2½" min. 10.00-12.00	NY 2½" up 10.50
U.S. ExFancy Rome		MI 2½" min. 10.50-12.00	
Apples, bushel cartons, loose			
U.S. Fancy Empire		MI 2¾" up 11.50-12.00 MI 3" min. 10.00 MI 2½" up 11.50-12.00	
U.S. Fancy Golden Delicious	MI 2¼" up 13.00-14.00	MI 2¾" up 10.00-12.00 2½" up 11.50-12.00	
U.S. Fancy Idared		MI 3" min. 10.00 MI 2½" up 11.50-12.00	
U.S. Fancy Jonagold		MI 3" min. 10.00	
U.S. Fancy Jonathan	MI 2¼" up 12.00		
U.S. Fancy McIntosh		MI 2¾" up 11.50-12.00 MI 2½" up 10.00	
U.S. Fancy Red Delicious		MI 2¾" up 11.50-12.00 3" min 10.00 2½" up 9.50-10.00	
U.S. Fancy Rome		MI 2¾" up 11.50-12.00 3" min. 10.00	
No grade mark Golden Delicious			PA no size mark 9.00
No grade mark Empire			PA no size mark 9.00
No grade mark Rome			PA no size mark 8.50
No grade marks Red Delicious			PA no size mark 9.00

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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.

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

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