Dear Ohio Fruit Growers:

Happy April to everyone! Warmer temperatures definitely got everything going! The blackberry plants in our high tunnel started growing already!

Blueberry plants were at the bud swell stage during the second week of April. Central Ohio will open their pick-your-own blueberries next week.

Grape buds started swelling during the second week of April in southern Ohio. Many growers are still finishing up pruning. Dormant pruning should be done as soon as possible. Otherwise, some grape buds can be knocked off by accident.

Plants in the Plasticulture Strawberry Production system and the matted Row system look quite good. So far, things are looking quite “normal”. Well, normal is good!

If you have not purchased a copy of this year’s fruit spray guides, now is a good time to get them. We have made a few updates to both “Midwest Tree Fruit Spray Guide” and “Midwest Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide.” Both of them can be ordered through your local OSU Extension offices or OSU Extension eStore, which is online at osu-extension.org/

Please contact me or other OSU fruit folks, if you have any comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary Gao
Extension Specialist and Associate Professor
Commercial Fruit Spray Guides

Blueberries & Brambles Workshop
Presented by OSU Extension in Medina County
Date: April 23, 2013

AGENDA
12:00 – 12:15 pm: Sign-in, Lunch*
12:15 – 1:30 pm: Blueberry Production
1:30 – 2:45 pm: Blackberry & Raspberry Production
2:45 – 3:00 pm Questions & Evaluation
Location: Akron University Center, Room 314, 6300 Technology Lane
Medina, OH 44256

*REGISTRATION: $15.00 per person, which includes pizza lunch, beverage, & handouts. For more info or to check on availability call: 330-725-4911 X106
To Pre-Register: Detach and return with check for $15.00 payable to “OSU Extension Medina County” to: 120 W. Washington St. Suite 1L, Medina, OH 44256.

NAME: ________________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________________ Email: ___________________________
Any dietary restrictions?______________________________________________
“Scaffolds Fruit Journal” From Cornell University

Dr. Mike Ellis reminded Ohio fruit growers about an excellent newsletter, which is entitled “Scaffolds Fruit Journal.”

He wrote that “If our tree fruit growers are not subscribing to this newsletter, they certainly should be. The information contained in it is often invaluable. We need to get this message to the growers. I would hope every apple grower in Ohio would read the article in this week’s Scaffolds.”

Scaffolds Fruit Journal is a weekly update on pest management and crop development and is edited by A. Agnello and D. Kain of Cornell University. To subscribe to Scaffolds Fruit Journal, please contact Art Agnello at: ama4@cornell.edu

This newsletter is also available online at: http://www.scaffolds.entomology.cornell.edu/index.html

“Facts for Fancy Fruit” From Purdue University

Another excellent commercial fruit newsletter is “Facts for Fancy Fruit” produced by a team of fruit experts from Purdue University.

Facts for Fancy Fruit is a newsletter for commercial and advanced amateur fruit growers. It provides timely information on pest control, production practices, and other topics likely to be of interest to fruit growers. All growers and interested persons are welcome to subscribe.

It is free to subscribe to “Facts for Fancy Fruit” by email. There is a $15 charge, if one desires to subscribe by mail.

The home page for this newsletter is http://www.hort.purdue.edu/fff/fff.shtml

To contact the newsletter team, follow this link http://www.hort.purdue.edu/fff/contact.shtml
Don’t Guess, Soil Test!

By Dr. Gary Gao

Soil tests should be done every 2-3 years. If you have not done it for a while, you should consider get one done. Spring is a good time to have your soil tested. But autumn is even better since soil testing labs are not as busy and this allows you more time to correct pH and/or nutrient problems.

How Do I Take Soil Samples?
1. Remove the top debris or residue from the soil surface before taking the sample;
2. Sample soil in the fruit planting areas 6–8 inches deep.
3. Take soil cores or slices from as many places as possible to cover the entire sampling area by going zigzag;
4. Avoid fertilizer bands;
5. Sample when soils are suitable for spading or plowing.
6. Take separate samples from fields that have received different fertility programs;
7. Take separate samples from soils that are distinguishable by color (i.e. light vs. dark), drainage, or other factors. The test results are only as good as the sample taken.

It is extremely important to provide a representative sample to the testing lab so that a reliable test and recommendations can be made for the entire area. This can be accomplished by submitting a composite sample. A good representative composite sample should contain at least 15 cores or slices. Each core or slice should be taken at the same depth and volume at each site.

More soil cores need to be taken if the area was recently limed or fertilized. Separate samples need to be taken fruit crops or management systems. Separate samples should be taken from areas with distinctive soil types or plant performances.

How to Prepare Soil Samples for Submission
1. Contact a soil testing lab for instructions, soil test kits, and appropriate forms;
2. Break up lumps and air dry the soil at room temperature with no artificial heat;
3. When the soil is dry, mix well and crush soil lumps to the size of wheat grains or smaller;
4. Take about one pint of the composite sample and place it in the sample bag associated with the kit.

A list of suggested soil testing labs can be found online at http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/1000/pdf/1132.pdf
We often hear “April Showers Bring May Flowers.” I am not sure this is totally correct. I think April showers may bring more disease problems than May flowers. Well, anyway, now is time to familiarize yourself with another service that Ohio State University offers, if you have not done so.

The C. Wayne Ellet Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic is a diagnostic facility specializing in the identification of plant diseases, plant health issues, and insect-related problems. The C. Wayne Ellet Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic is a diagnostic facility specializing in the identification of plant diseases, plant health issues, and insect-related problems.

The service I am talking is The C. Wayne Ellet Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic. This Clinic is a diagnostic facility specializing in the identification of plant diseases, plant health issues, and insect-related problems.

The CWEPPDC offers a broad spectrum of testing to identify pests and plant diseases. Diagnosticians collaborate with specialists in plant pathology, entomology, horticulture, agronomy, natural resources, and other areas to identify pests, plant diseases, and cultural and environmental problems of plants.

There is a fee for this service. The website for the Clinic is: http://ppdc.osu.edu/ The fee schedule and sample forms are available there too.

Fruits:
Samples of fruit plants can be submitted to the C. Wayne Ellett Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic. Fruit includes apples, pears, raspberries, blackberries, grapes, strawberries, blueberries and other similar plants. Fruit can be grown in the home or backyard garden as well as by commercial growers.

Samples should be fresh.

Samples should represent the early to middle stages of the development of the problem. A completely dead and decaying sample cannot be reliably diagnosed.

Samples should be carefully packaged and shipped early in the week to avoid weekend layovers during which the sample will deteriorate.

Be sure to include sample documentation and background information. The specimen form can be downloaded from: General Form

Pictures of the problem in the field are always helpful.
# OSU Fruit Specialists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name and Title</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Expertise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Brad Bergefurd  
Horticulture Specialist  
OSU South Centers  
1864 Shyville Rd.  
Piketon, OH 45661 | Phone: 740-289-2071, ext. 136  
Email: bergefurd.1@osu.edu  
Website:  
http://southcenters.osu.edu/hort | Small fruit crops and wholesale produce auction development and operations. |
| Dr. Imed Dami, Associate Professor & Viticulture State Specialist  
Dept. of Hort. & Crop Science  
216 Gourley Hall—OARDC  
1680 Madison Avenue  
Wooster, OH 44691 | Phone: 330-263-3881  
Email: dami.1@osu.edu  
Website: oardc.osu.edu/grapeweb/ | Viticulture research and statewide Extension & outreach programs. Recommendation on variety selection. Imed is the primary research contact of the viticulture program. |
| Dr. Doug Doohan, Professor  
Dept. of Hort. & Crop Science  
205 Gourley Hall – OARDC  
1680 Madison Avenue  
Wooster, OH 44691 | Phone: 330-202-3593  
Email: doohan.1@osu.edu  
Website: http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/weedworkshop/ | Weed control in fruit crops. |
| Dr. Mike Ellis, Professor  
Dept. of Plant Pathology  
224 Selby Hall—OARDC  
1680 Madison Avenue  
Wooster, OH 44691 | Phone: 330-263-3849  
Email: ellis.7@osu.edu  
Website: http://plantpath.osu.edu/ | Tree fruit and small fruit disease control. |
| Dr. Gary Gao, Small Fruit Specialist & Associate Professor  
OSU South Centers  
1864 Shyville Rd.  
Piketon, OH 45661 | Phone: 740-289-2071. ext. 123  
Email: gao.2@osu.edu  
Website:  
http://southcenters.osu.edu/hort | Management of blackberries, raspberries, blueberries, currants, gooseberries, grapes, and strawberries. |
| David Marrison, County Director, Associate Professor & Extension Educator for Agriculture & Natural Resources  
OSU Extension – Ashtabula and Trumbull Counties, 39 Wall Street, Jefferson, OH 44047 | Phone: 440-576-9008  
Email: marrison.2@osu.edu  
Website:  
http://ashtabula.osu.edu/ | Grape production in northeast Ohio. |
| Dr. Diane Miller, Associate Professor, Tree Fruit Specialist  
Dept. of Hort. & Crop Science  
203A Williams Hall  
1680 Madison Ave.  
Wooster, OH 44691 | Phone: 330-263-3824  
Email: miller.87@osu.edu | Tree fruit research and Extension. |
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</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>David Scurlock</td>
<td>Phone: 330-263-3825 Email: <a href="mailto:scurlock.2@osu.edu">scurlock.2@osu.edu</a> Website: oardc.osu.edu/grapeweb/</td>
<td>Evaluation of site suitability for vineyard establishment and all aspects of grape production practices in northern Ohio. David is the primary Extension contact of the viticulture program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Celeste Welty, Associate</td>
<td>Phone: 614-292-2803 Email: <a href="mailto:welty.1@osu.edu">welty.1@osu.edu</a> <a href="http://bugs.osu.edu/welty/index.html">http://bugs.osu.edu/welty/index.html</a></td>
<td>Tree fruit insect and mite control.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professor &amp; Extension Entomologist</td>
<td>Extension Entomology Rothenbuhler Labs 2501 Carmack Rd. Columbus, Ohio 43210</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Blueberry pruning demonstration by Dr. Gary Gao at the 2013 Ohio Berry Production Workshop at OSU South Centers in Piketon. Photo by Beth Rigsby, OSU South Centers.
Strawberry Plasticulture Workshop
May 16, 2013
6:00 p.m.— 9:00 p.m.
Registration fee: $5.00 Deadline is 5/14/13
To register, contact Charissa 740.289.2071 Ext. 132 mcglothin.4@osu.edu
Hosted by: Brad Bergefurd
For further information go to
http://go.osu.edu/StrawberryWorkshop

Subscribe to OGEN—Ohio Grape Electronic News—for the latest commercial grape growing and vineyard news by emailing:

Dave Scurlock
scurlock.2@osu.edu
http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/grapeweb/

Ohio Fruit News is archived at
http://go.osu.edu/ICMNews

If you have articles or events for possible inclusion in upcoming issues of this newsletter, please submit them to:
Dr. Gary Gao
gao.2@osu.edu

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.

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Keith L. Smith, Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, Ohio State University Extension
TDD No. 800-589-8292 (Ohio only) or 614-292-1868

Central Ohio Poison Control Number
(800) 222-1222
TTY# 614-228-2272

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