

Northern Michigan FruitNet 2015

Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center

Weekly Update

FruitNet Report – July 14, 2015

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2015

5/5 – 8/? **Grand Traverse County IPM Updates**
Wunsch Farm

7/18 **Parallel 45 Pig Roast**
Old Mission Peninsula, details provided in the grape report

7/29 **The 26th Annual Viticulture Field Day & Steak Cookout**
Southwest Michigan Research & Extension Center, Benton Harbor, details provided in the grape report.

GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF June 29, 2015 AT THE NWMHRC

Year	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	25 Yr. Avg.
GDD42	1618	1554	1670	2162	1587	2003	1688.7
GDD50	974	955	1075	1395	970	1245	1037.5

GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF July 13, 2015 AT THE NWMHRC

Growth Stages at NWMHRC (July 13, 2015, 11 a.m.)

Apple: Red Delicious – 37 mm fruit
Gala – 36 mm fruit
Yellow Delicious – 37 mm fruit

Pear: Bartlett: 30 mm fruit

Sweet Cherry: Hedelfingen – 25 mm fruit
Napoleon – 23 mm fruit
Gold – 22 mm fruit

Tart Cherry: 21 mm fruit

Balaton: 20 mm fruit

Apricot: 33 mm fruit

Grapes: Riesling – Bloom

Northwest Michigan Fruit Regional Report – July 14, 2015

Higher numbers of cherry fruit fly and obliquebanded leafrollers have been reported in traps throughout the region this week.

Nikki Rothwell and Emily Pochubay

Weather Report

We had another beautiful summer week in northern Michigan. Last week, daytime temperatures were in the mid-70s and temperatures hit the 80s over the weekend. Thus far, we have accumulated 1618 GDD base 42 and 974 GDD base 50, and we are a few days behind our 25-year average. Rain was predicted for yesterday, (13 July), and we received a few sprinkles but no substantial rain was observed in the area. Conditions are very dry, but as sweet cherry harvest is underway, growers are hoping the rain holds off. There is a 93% chance of rain again today (7/14). Overnight, we did end up receiving some rain. We recorded .23 inches at the station.

Crop Report

As mentioned above, sweet cherry harvest has begun in earnest. Although the crop is variable across the region, the quality of the fruit is good. There is some detectable bird damage, particularly in early ripening varieties. However, very little brown rot has been reported so far. There was some cracking from the light rain a week ago, and growers want to get the crop off before a potential big rain event. Trees with a light crop are more at risk from cracking, and orchards with a lighter crop are ripening fast. A lot of ethephon is going cherries on this week. Tart cherries are also coloring up. We have some blocks at the station that look like we could harvest next week. Some orchard blocks in the area have a big crop, and growers are trying to keep leaves on as long as possible to ensure that the crop ripens. Leaf spot and virus have taken a toll on many trees throughout the region. Apples are sizing, and growers are assessing their thinning efforts from the spring. Some growers are hand-thinning fruit at this time.

Pest Report

We are continuing to see **cherry leaf spot** infected leaves and virus infected leaves falling from trees in the area. Fortunately, we have had only a few days with rain and very few infection periods reported on Enviro-weather since the beginning of July. Cracked fruit as a result of rain early last week is showing up and growers are concerned with the potential for **brown rot** development. Thus far, we have seen very little brown rot infection and have only received a few isolated reports of brown rot in orchards. However, growers should be on the lookout for brown rot in cracked fruit, in particular if fruit are still on

the trees after more significant rainfall. Overall, recent dry conditions have been in our favor and have posed fewer challenges with cherry diseases, especially compared to our wet start to the season.

Rain last week stimulated **cherry fruit fly** (CFF) emergence, and we are finding higher numbers of CFF in the region (10 CFF per trap have been reported) and at the research station (a high of four CFF on a trap) this week. Some growers harvested sweet cherry blocks before CFF were detected in more significant numbers. Many growers will be protecting against CFF this week in blocks that will not be harvested for another couple of weeks. Fortunately, **spotted wing drosophila** (SWD) numbers continue to be low, and many growers have decided to focus on managing CFF at this time. We found one female SWD adult in a trap that was placed in mulberry, a non-crop SWD host, in Antrim County late last week. **Obliquebanded leafroller** (OBLR) trap numbers are on the rise this week, and most traps are catching well above 20-moth threshold throughout the region (~50 moths/trap in some blocks). Growers should remember that most materials that are effective against CFF are not as effective for OBLR and vice versa. Therefore, growers with high OBLR trap numbers should put a Lepidopteran material for OBLR in the tank as we approach harvest. We have not found OBLR larvae at this time, but these larvae typically become active at approximately 1405 GDD base 42 degrees F, and thus far, we have accumulated 1618GDD.

Event

Duke Elsner

The 26th Annual Viticulture Field Day & Steak Cookout will be held at the Southwest Michigan Research & Extension Center in Benton Harbor on July 29. Informational sessions and the equipment show start at 9 am, and the day finishes with the ever-popular steak cook-out. Parallel 45 is working to take a group to the meeting this year, and some expenses may be covered. Contact Duke for more details.

Michigan Pomesters 2015 Membership Renewal

Membership Dues: \$25 per person (can pay at RidgeFest)

Benefits of Membership: Paying your dues today includes:

All tours and educational events held throughout the year are **free of charge** including:

- RidgeFest 2015
- IFTA Scholarship opportunities
- all other educational events that we host
- other events that we are partners in

If there are others at your organization that want to join or have been members in the past, feel free to include their contact info and we can get them on the mailing list.



Company Name (s): _____

Member Name (s): _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone(s) _____

Checks payable to: Michigan Pomesters

Direct Questions & Comments to: mipomesters@gmail.com | Nick Rasch (616) 813-1064

Strategic Growth Initiative Grant Program Announced to Boost Michigan's Growing Food and Agriculture Industry

LANSING, Mich. – A grant opportunity designed to encourage growth in Michigan's food and agriculture industry was announced today by Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Director Jamie Clover Adams.

"This is a great chance for our food and agriculture businesses to find innovative ways to expand and grow. Food and agriculture in Michigan is a \$101 billion industry. This is one avenue to help spur job creation, support local communities and drive new economic development," said Clover Adams.

Applicants for grant funds will be asked to describe how the project potentially impacts and produces measurable outcomes for the food and agriculture industry and/or the public rather than a single organization, institution, or individual.

This initiative has been developed to focus on removing existing barriers and leveraging opportunities identified by food processors, agri-business, and those in agricultural production as critical to business development and growth. Priority will be given to projects that identify a scope of work that includes one or more of the following as it relates to the food and agriculture industry:

1. Talent/Workforce Development (i.e. training activities)
2. Infrastructure/Logistics (i.e. broadband access)
3. Feasibility Studies (i.e. enhancing value added capacity)

All application materials including the program overview and fillable application form are available on MDARD's website www.michigan.gov/mdardgrants. Applications are due to MDARD by 3pm EST on July 22, 2015.

IPM Update Cookout and Schedule Change

Emily Pochubay and Nikki Rothwell, NWMHRC

As many of you are already aware, please note the changes to upcoming IPM Update meeting dates. Due to a scheduling conflict, the IPM Update meetings for July 14th and 15th have been cancelled. We apologize for any inconvenience as a result of this cancellation, and to account for this change, additional IPM Updates have been or will be scheduled. Please see below for details on dates and times of these additional meetings. Thank you all for your continued support of the NWMHRC, MSU Extension, and Michigan's fruit industries!

***NEW IPM Update Schedule**

Grand Traverse County

Location: Wunsch Farms, Phelps Road Packing Shed, Old Mission

Dates: June: 23 (cookout), June 30 **August* Final meeting date TBD**

Time: 3PM – 5PM

MSU Extension programs and material are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or veteran status. Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities.

WEB SITES OF INTEREST:

Insect and disease predictive information is available at:

<http://enviroweather.msu.edu/homeMap.php>

This issue and past issues of the weekly FruitNet report are posted on our website:

<http://agbioresearch.msu.edu/nwmihort/faxnet.htm>

60 Hour Forecast:

<http://www.agweather.geo.msu.edu/agwx/forecasts/fcst.asp?fileid=fous46ktvc>

Information on cherries is available at the new cherry website:

<http://www.cherries.msu.edu/>

Information on apples:

<http://apples.msu.edu/>

Information on grapes:

<http://grapes.msu.edu>

Fruit CAT Alert Reports has moved to MSU News

<http://news.msue.msu.edu>