

Northern Michigan FruitNet 2013

Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center

Weekly Update

April 23, 2013

GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF April 22 AT THE NWMHRC

Year	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	23yr. Avg.
GDD42	35	390	81	297	108	167	163.0
GDD50	7	203	23	126	35	77	66.7

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL REPORT

Nikki Rothwell, District Horticulturist, NWMHRC

A little side green observed in sweets and Balatons, but most crops still quiet throughout the region.

Again for this week, things are quiet across the region and crops have not moved much since our last observations. We are about two weeks behind normal, which is similar to most areas of the state. Orchards have been drying out with a few dry days, so growers are taking this opportunity to get into the orchard and clean up the brush, and pruning is continuing in most orchards. Growers with sweet cherries are still waiting for a good window for pruning, particularly with all the bacterial canker we had last year.

We had warm temperatures on Monday, 22 April, which was a welcome treat for everyone. The daytime high reached 64 degree F and the low only dipped down to the low 50's. We had about a half inch of rain last Thursday here at the NWMHRC but since that day, we have had dry conditions; rain is predicted for today. We have accumulated 35GDD base 42 and 7GDD base 50 as of yesterday afternoon; again, these accumulations are behind our 23-year average, which are 163GDD base 42 and 67GDD base 50.

2013 WEEKLY IPM UPDATES

Many growers are probably wondering when the traditional weekly IPM updates will begin and where they will be held. Because we were not able to fill the IPM position prior to the start of the growing season, we have decided to hold the weekly IPM sessions on **Wednesdays** beginning **May 8th** through **~July 10th** from **1:00-3:00 p.m.** at one location – **the NW Michigan Horticultural Research Center**. We will have to discuss whether or not we will hold an update on July 1 as the NWMHRC will be open for Cherry Connection during this week of the National Cherry Festival. The format will remain the same as in previous years. Commercial fruit growers are encouraged to bring examples of pests and damage found on the farm to the meetings for identification and discussion. Each week will characterize a different time in the season and distinct weather patterns, which in turn will present a unique set of pest problems and management strategies that will be discussed. These meetings are *free* and do not require registration. Pesticide recertification credits and certified crop advisor continued education credits will be available. For more information, contact Nikki Rothwell at rothwel3@msu.edu or (231)946-1510.

SECTION 18 SPECIFIC EXEMPTION GRANTED FOR KASUMIN FOR FIRE BLIGHT CONTROL FOR 2013

EPA has granted a Section 18 Specific Exemption for the use of Kasumin 2L for the control of the blossom blight phase of fire blight on apples in 2013. See specific counties.

Posted on **April 22, 2013, MSUE News**, by **George Sundin**, Michigan State University Extension, Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

A **Section 18 Specific Exemption** has been issued by [EPA](#) for the use of Kasumin 2L (kasugamycin) for controlling the blossom blight phase of fire blight on apples in 2013. This use is for orchards where streptomycin-resistant fire blight bacteria are present. The Section 18 is applicable to Antrim, Berrien, Cass, Grand Traverse, Ionia, Kent, Leelanau, Montcalm, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Van Buren counties.

This Section 18 exemption *only applies* to counties where we have detected streptomycin-resistant isolates of the fire blight pathogen *Erwinia amylovora*. We currently have not detected any streptomycin resistance in eastern Michigan.

Kasumin 2L should be available in each region this year in time for bloom sprays. [Michigan State University Extension](#) says to make sure you have the Section 18 label in hand when you are applying Kasumin 2L. Do not apply Kasumin through any irrigation system.

Conditions and restrictions of the Section 18 specific exemption

1. Apply Kasumin only when the pathogen is resistant to streptomycin. We have documented streptomycin resistance in all of the counties listed in the first paragraph of this article.
2. Do not apply Kasumin as the first spray of the season. It can only be used after a first spray of a registered alternative. These can include copper, oxytetracycline, Serenade MAX, or other biological control agents
3. **Kasumin 2L may only be applied when the following condition is met:**
 - a. Only when the disease forecasting model or fire blight state expert determine that the weather conditions favor a disease epidemic.
 - b. This condition is similar to last year. We have typically utilized the MaryBlyt fire blight prediction model, and have called for Kasumin applications when the Epiphytic Infection Potential (EIP) number from the MaryBlyt model **reaches or exceeds 100**. This model is available on the [Enviro-weather](#) website; use the weather station closest to your orchard location to get local conditions. Make sure to document the MaryBlyt EIP prediction by printout or screen capture to include in your spray records. Also, make sure that you document the EIP number when you make the decision to spray. Since this number is predicted for the next few days out, the number can change as current conditions and predictions change.
 - c. In summary, the use of Kasumin 2L is limited to epidemic conditions; if these conditions are not present this year, other fire blight control materials such as oxytetracycline should be used.
4. A maximum of **two sequential applications** of Kasumin can be made at a rate of 2 quarts (64 fl. oz.) per acre. Applications are restricted to ground equipment and cannot be made through any type of irrigation system.
5. A maximum of **three applications** of Kasumin can be used (64 fl. oz. per acre), if authorized. Treatments can be made no later than petal fall.
6. **Alternate row applications are not allowed.** This requirement of the Section 18 exemption is for resistance management and was instituted in 2012.
7. Do not apply Kasumin as the first spray of the season. It should be applied only after the first spray of registered alternatives.
8. Do not use in orchards in which the soil has been fertilized with animal manure. This restriction addresses concerns that kasugamycin resistance could be transferred to *E. coli* bacteria present in animal manure.

9. Upon expiration of the exemption on May 31, 2013, all unopened and unused product must be returned to the dealer where purchased or to the manufacturer or disposed of in accordance with [Resource Conservation and Recovery Act](#) regulations following the expiration of the Section 18 exemption.

Kasumin 2L (kasugamycin) from [Arysta](#) is an alternative antibiotic for fire blight management. Kasumin 2L will work equally on streptomycin-resistant and streptomycin-sensitive strains. The label rate is 2 quarts per acre.

Please note that my lab will also be conducting resistance monitoring in selected orchards this year that use Kasumin. This is to satisfy an EPA directive that we monitor for the occurrence of kasugamycin resistance, and also the potential for resistance to other related antibiotics. We will be taking leaf and soil samples from approximately 10 orchards throughout the state. These monitoring experiments will be conducted after petal fall.

As always, I want to thank Brian Verhougstraete, pesticide registration manager of the [Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development](#) for his support of this Section 18 request. Verhougstraete submits our request each year and serves as our liaison to EPA.

Dr. Sundin's work is funded in part by [MSU's AgBioResearch](#).

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FOLLOW THE NW STATION ON TWITTER (@NWMHRS)

This new technology can benefit growers as they can receive the most up-to-date information during the busy growing season.

N.L. Rothwell, District Horticulturist, NWMHRC

The Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station has set up a Twitter account for the region's growers. Twitter is an online networking service that enables users to send and read text-based messages of up to 140 characters known as 'tweets'. We think that Twitter will be a valuable way of communicating important and up-to-date information about events in the orchards and vineyards; these events can be communicated immediately, and growers can receive the information directly on his or her phone, even while in the field. Tweets can be received by growers with smart phones by downloading the Twitter app or as text messages for more traditional cell phones. If growers do not have a cell phone, they can still receive the information online by going to the Twitter website.

For those interested in 'following' (receiving information) from the NW Station via Twitter, they need to sign up for Twitter online (<https://twitter.com/>). The steps to sign up are fairly simple to follow: just create a username and click on create account. The next page in the set up process will show you what a 'tweet' is--a short message that contains up to 140 characters. Following people or organizations is the next step, and the Northwest Station's user name is **NWMHRS**. Once this initial information has been entered, followers will have to log into the account, which is the main page where growers can compose a tweet or read tweets, change account settings and information, and choose to follow or un-follow people or organizations. For growers with cell phones, he or she can download the Twitter app to work with a smart phone or activate Twitter text messaging by entering a cell phone number. Once this information has been entered, growers can receive 'tweets' of important and relevant information as we go through the growing season.

The NW Station will continue to produce traditional email information, through FruitNet, multiple times per week, and MSU E News will also provide timely information during the growing season. We thought this new technology might be another way to communicate with growers, especially when they are on the go during a busy field season. We hope that growers will find this new technology beneficial.

AG CONTAINER RECYCLING FOR GRAND TRAVERSE AREA

American Waste is offering **free** recycling of your pesticide containers at their recycling facility at 280 Hughes Drive in Traverse City. Containers must be triple-rinsed and can be dropped off during normal business hours. Just check in at the scale house before dropping off and tell them you are with Farm-A-Syst. For questions, call 231-943-8088 or visit their website www.americanwaste.org.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Insect and disease predictive information is available at:

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

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/>

Fruit CAT Alert Reports have moved to MSU News

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