

Northern Michigan FruitNet 2014

Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center

Weekly Update

May 27, 2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 5/27** **IPM Update**
Leelanau Co.– Bardenhagen Farm
- 5/27** **IPM Update**
Grand Traverse Co. – Wunsch Farm
- 5/31** **Leelanau Co. Household Hazardous Waste Collection**
Maple City
- 7/2** **IPM Updates End**
- 7/22-24** **35TH Annual Ag Expo**
Michigan State University
- 9/4** **NWMHRC Open House – 35th Anniversary**
Please note change in date from 8/21 to 9/4

GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF May 26 AT THE NWMHRC

Year	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	24 Yr. Avg.
GDD42	397	496	870	435	782	526	551.3
GDD50	178	273	477	192	407	247	270.8

Growth Stages at NWMHRC (May 27, 2014, 8:00 a.m.)

- Apple:** Red Delicious – King bloom
Gala – Open cluster
Yellow Delicious – King bloom
- Pear:** Bartlett: Full bloom

Sweet Cherry: Hedelfingen: Petal fall
Napoleon: Petal fall
Gold: Petal fall

Tart Cherry: Full bloom

Balaton: Full bloom

Apricot: In the shuck

Grapes: Bud burst

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL REPORT

E. Pochubay, N. Rothwell, and D. Elsner, Extension Educators

Orchards in bloom have been buzzing with pollinator activity during this beautiful weather.

Weather Report

The weather over the Memorial Day weekend was beautiful with daytime temperatures in the mid- to high 70s. The sunny conditions were almost perfect for pollinating the open blooms on most of our sweet and tart cherries; bee activity was excellent. With the recent warm up, we have accumulated many growing degree-day units, and we are at 397GDD base 42 and 178GDD base 50. These accumulations are much closer to our 20+-year average than in past weeks; our average accumulations are 551GDD base 42 and 271GDD base 50. Despite the wet start to the spring, soils have dried out in the past week. The last significant rainfall was on 20 May when we recorded 0.62". Forecasts are not predicting much rainfall in the coming week. Fog was thick throughout Leelanau County this morning.

Crop Report

Over the weekend, sweet cherries were in full bloom, and here at the NWMHRC, many sweet cherry varieties are at petal fall. Tart cherries are in full bloom at the NWMHRC, and further north, Montmorency are just coming into bloom. Balatons are also in bloom, and many growers experimenting with ReTain made applications in Balaton over the weekend; weather conditions were good for plant growth regulators (PGRs). As mentioned above, the warm and sunny weather were excellent for bee activity in blooming cherry orchards. We expect that these conditions were conducive for setting a good crop of both tarts and sweets in the region. Over the weekend, many growers were busy covering their crops for the potential rainfall that was expected on Memorial Day; weather conditions and the forecasts made the decision to spray difficult.

Pest Report

Warm and sunny conditions in the last week have not been conducive for **apple scab** infection periods. Our heaviest potential primary apple scab infection period occurred 12 May through 13 May. The NWMHRC collected an average of 1,885 apple scab spores per spore rod from the NWMHRC apple scab monitoring field site in Leelanau County following the 12 May infection

Table 1. Apple scab spore count

Date	Avg # apple scab spores per rod
5/1/14	50.75
5/2/14	18.5
5/3/14	258.75
5/8/14	368
5/9/14	1,443
5/13/14	1,855
5/16/14	110
5/20/14	0

period. Since then, two rain events on 15 May and 20 May have occurred and although these most recent rain events did not result in a potential apple scab infection at the NWMHRC, other areas in the region (Bear Lake, Benzonia, Old Mission) did have the potential for infection on 20 May.

Apple scab spores collected from the NWMHRC monitoring site following last week's rain seem to be on the decline with an average of 110 spores on 15 May, and no spores on 20 May. However, research has shown that fewer apple scab spores are dispersed during nighttime rain and on 15 May and 20 May, rain began at approximately midnight and continued into the early morning the following day. Therefore, the lower average number of spores collected on these dates is likely due to a combination of cooler temperatures, duration of the wetting events, and because the wetting event occurred at night.

Many apple growers who had **powdery mildew** infection in their orchards last season sprayed an SDHI fungicide last week to manage both apple scab and powdery mildew in apples that have reached tight cluster and pink.

Fire blight blossom blight is a concern as apple and pear blossoms begin opening. Fire blight bacteria grow quickly on the tip of the flower pistil when temperatures reach 65 degrees Fahrenheit. Rain or heavy dew can wash the bacteria into the flower where infection can take place. The Section 18 for Kasumin in counties where resistance has been detected has been extended to June 15, 2014. A registered alternative must be used prior to a Kasumin application. Please refer to the Section 18 label for Kasumin for more information on the conditions of Kasumin use for fire blight blossom blight.

Tart cherries progressed quickly from whitebud to bloom over this long weekend. Although the weather has been warm and mostly dry, some growers have protected from **European brown rot** infection.

Warm, sunny days during bloom have been exceptional conditions for pollinators and they have been very active in the last week. Native pollinator activity seems to be high this season, and bumblebee numbers appear to be particularly abundant this year. Predators such as lady beetles and parasitoid wasps have also been active.

In our fourth consecutive week of monitoring **green fruit worm**, moth numbers have decreased from 17.6 moths per trap last week to 1.3 moths per trap this week. **Spotted tentiform leafminer** numbers jumped up to an average of 98.5 moths per trap and this is our third consecutive week of spotted tentiform leafminer moth capture. **American plum borer** and **Oriental fruit moth** are active. Our first capture of American plum borer and oriental fruit moth was on 26 May. We have also received reports of **plum curculio** activity in the region. Monitoring for **codling moth** will begin at the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center this week.

Wine Grapes

In many sites, the condition of the vinifera varieties looks very poor. Shoots low on vines (below the snow cover line) are at 1-2 inches in growth. Chardonnay and Riesling are showing significant bud swell and bud break higher on the vines, but many other varieties have no bud swell above the snow line.

Hybrids, except for a few experimental varieties, look much better, with a good percentage of buds swell and bud break throughout the vine.

Reports on bud survival and shoot growth from commercial vineyards would be appreciated so we can prepare a more complete report on NW Michigan vineyard conditions.

Saskatoons

Most fruiting stems are in late bloom or petal fall. Some pest activity has been noted – all leaf-feeding insects to this point, mostly beetles and aphids. No fruit infesting insects have been detected thus far.

LEELANAU COUNTY HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

The first Leelanau County Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be held on **Saturday, May 31st** at the Maple City Road Commission Garage, 95 W. Church St, Maple City. The collection runs from **8 AM – 2 PM**.

If you would like to participate, please call the Planning Dept. (231-256-9812) for an appointment.

Collection details, including additional collection dates and acceptable items can be found on the HHW Flyer:

http://www.leelanau.cc/downloads/hhw_flyer_2014.pdf

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the collection please let us know. The collections provide an excellent opportunity to interact with Leelanau County Citizens!

TREE FRUIT IPM UPDATE SERIES – 2014

Emily Pochubay and Nikki Rothwell
Michigan State University Extension

After a one-year break, Michigan State University is back to offering on-farm IPM workshops in Leelanau, Grand Traverse, Antrim, and Benzie counties in northwest Michigan for the 2014 season. Workshops begin the first week of May in hopes of providing commercial tree fruit growers with a review of good practices for developing sustainable pest management programs as well as key information on early season disease protection. Workshops through the first week of July will highlight management of the season's current potential pest challenges dictated by weather and pest biology. Attendees are encouraged to bring examples of pests and damage found on the farm to these workshops for identification and discussion. These IPM workshops are free and do not require registration. Certified crop advisor continued education credits and pesticide recertification credits will be available. Tree fruit growers are welcome to

attend meetings at any location and time that is most convenient. We are looking forward to interacting with you all at these meetings. For more information, please contact Emily Pochubay at pochubay@msu.edu or (231) 946-1510.

IPM Update Locations

Leelanau County

Location: Jim and Jan Bardenhagen, 7881 Pertner Rd, Suttons Bay
Dates: May: 6, 13, 20, 27; June: 3, 10, 17, 24; July: 1
Time: 12PM – 2PM

Grand Traverse County

Location: Wunsch Farms, Phelps Road Packing Shed, Old Mission
Dates: May: 6, 13, 20, 27; June: 3, 10, 17, 24; July: 1
Time: 3PM – 5PM

Antrim County

Location: Jack White Farms, 10877 US-31, Williamsburg
(south of Elk Rapids on the southeast side of US-31)
May: 7, 21; June: 4, 18; July: 2
Time: 10AM – 12PM

Benzie County

Location: Blaine Christian Church
May: 7, 21; June: 4, 18; July: 2
Time: 2PM – 4PM

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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/centers/nwmihort>

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 has moved to MSU News

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