

Northern Michigan FruitNet 2015

Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center

Weekly Update

FruitNet Report – July 7, 2015

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2015

- 5/5 – 7/7** **Leelanau County IPM Updates**
Bardenhagen Farm
- 5/5 – 8/?** **Grand Traverse County IPM Updates**
Wunsch Farm
- 5/6 - 7/8** **Antrim County IPM Updates**
Jack White Farms
- 5/6 - 7/8** **Benzie County IPM Updates**
Blaine Christian Church
- 7/10** **P45/MSUE Friday meeting series**
The root Biosphere and Soil Health with Dr. George Bird, MSU Department of Entomology
Bel Lago Vineyards, 3-5 pm
- 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.
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GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF July 6, 2015 AT THE NWMHRC

Growth Stages at NWMHRC (July 6, 2015, 11 a.m.)

Apple: Red Delicious – 35 mm fruit
Gala – 33 mm fruit

Yellow Delicious – 30 mm fruit
Pear: Bartlett: 27 mm fruit
Sweet Cherry: Hedelfingen – 23 mm fruit
 Napoleon – 22 mm fruit
 Gold – 20 mm fruit
Tart Cherry: 20 mm fruit
Balaton: 18 mm fruit
Apricot: 32 mm fruit
Grapes: Riesling – First bloom

Northwest Michigan Fruit Regional Report – July 7, 2015

Sweet cherry harvest is beginning in time for the National Cherry Festival.

Emily Pochubay and Nikki Rothwell

Weather Report

The holiday weekend was perfect for enjoying northern Michigan! We had warm and dry weather for celebrating Fourth of July! Daytime temperatures were up in the 80s and fell into the high 50s at night. The warm and dry weather will be helpful for keeping diseases in check. However, rain is predicted to move into the region over night, and the forecast is for thunderstorms accompanied by heavy rainfall. Overall, we have been dry throughout the region. The last significant rainfall was 0.25” of rain on 14 June. With the recent warm temperatures, we have moved up in our degree-day accumulations: 1402 base 42 and 817 base 50.

Crop Report

Growers anticipate starting hand harvesting early varieties of sweet cherries this week. Some early varieties were picked on Old Mission Peninsula over the weekend. Cherries are coming at the perfect time as the National Cherry Festival kicked off over the weekend. Growers have reported that a lot of the fruit that was not pollinated has finally started to fall, and the remaining cherries are looking good at this time. We are concerned about cracking with the potentially heavy rains in the forecast. Growers have done a good job managing brown rot in sweet cherries. Birds are evident in blocks as sweet cherries ripen.

Tart cherries also continue to ripen, and the crop appears to look larger in some blocks than we first anticipated. However, the estimate remains at 86 million pounds, and growers have differing opinions if that estimate is too big or too small. We will know in a few weeks as growers anticipate harvest starting the third week of July.

The apple crop continues to size, and growers are disappointed with the frost rings on some varieties. Frost rings are evident in Galas in many orchards. Honeycrisp are looking good and seem to have fewer frost rings in this variety. Some growers are hand-thinning trees where the crop is too big, especially in tops of trees. Estimated harvest dates are close to where they were last year, and the harvest dates will be available this week.

Strawberry harvest is ending this week on many farms.

Pest Report

As mentioned above, recent weather has been warm and dry which has been drastically different compared with wet conditions a month ago. Due to this recent dry weather, we have had very few infection periods since the middle part of June. We are currently in the midst of a **cherry leaf spot** (CLS) infection period following rain last evening and this morning. Prior to this recent rain, the last CLS infection occurred a week ago on 30 June when we received very little rain (.01" recorded on Enviro-weather) and a cool fog settled over the area which kept conditions humid. Although recent conditions for the most part have not been conducive for new CLS infections, the disease is apparent in most orchards and the lesions that are sporulating now are likely a result of infections that occurred during the several back-to-back infection periods from late May into early June. Pre-mature defoliation due to virus and disease is also widespread. In some orchards this scenario has resulted in too few leaves on trees and growers are concerned about ripening cherries. Additionally, some tart cherry trees seem to have very little growth this season, which may be adding to the concern of early defoliation. We encourage growers who have leaf spot to use full covers rather than alternate row middle applications to ensure good coverage of all tissue to prevent new CLS infections, and ultimately the potential for additional leaf loss due to CLS. Please see the article, *Controlling cherry leaf spot in orchards with existing symptoms*, for more information on control strategies.

Rain on Monday could cause cracking and cracked cherries are more readily infected with **American brown rot**. Birds are also active in cherries at this time and bird pecked cherries are also a concern for ABR infection. Although ABR is not prevalent at this time, we have received a few reports of brown rot starting to show up in cherries. However, we would like to remind growers that this fungus can spread rapidly. Alternating the use of Indar and an SDHI prior to harvest is recommended to minimize the development of ABR resistance, especially when conditions are favorable for ABR development. We also encourage growers to use the Special Local Needs (SLN) label for Indar applications at an increased rate of 12 fl oz per acre; this label is available through the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. ABR resistant isolates and isolates with reduced sensitivity to Indar have been detected in Michigan, and because Indar resistance is quantitative, the increased rate of 12 fl oz is the most effective rate for ABR control.

We found a total of five **codling moths** at the station this week. **Apple maggot traps** are going up at the station this week.

Cherry fruit fly is active in low numbers in the region and a total of two cherry fruit flies were captured on traps at the station this week. These two flies were the first CFF found at the research station this season. Overnight rains will likely stimulate CFF emergence.

Obliquebanded leafroller activity is ongoing and we are continuing to catch low numbers of OBLR (2.4 OBLR/trap) at the station. However, there were reports of high OBLR populations in some orchards (47 moths in a trap) late last week and early this week; 20 or more OBLR moths in a trap is an indication of a potentially high OBLR population in the orchard, and that management of the larvae will likely be needed to prevent shaking the larvae into tanks at harvest. We expect that OBLR larvae will be evident in orchards as these larvae typically become active at approximately 1405 GDD base 42 degrees F. Some growers with high catches of OBLR are planning to treat for the larvae prior to harvest.

One **spotted wing drosophila** (SWD) female was detected in an Alpha lure baited trap yesterday (07/01/2015) in a sweet cherry orchard near the orchard edge in Antrim County, south of Elk Rapids.

The orchard is a smaller block (~2 acres) surrounded by a wooded area on three sides. The alpha lure is one of five baits that the Michigan State University Fruit Team and the research station are testing for SWD trap effectiveness. The first SWD detected in the state was found in a Trece lure baited trap in a tart cherry block in Benzie County, and we have not found SWD in that orchard block since the first fly was found on June 11.

Grapes

Duke Elsner

Shoot growth has been rapid during the past week, making all vineyards look much better at last. Even some severely winter-injured experimental varieties at the research center now show numerous strong shoots from the basal area of the vine, enough growing points to rebuild the vine for the 2016 cropping season.

Rose chafer numbers have fallen off throughout the area. Powdery mildew is the principle threat to vines at this time. I have seen some downy mildew infections on wild grape in the area.

Meetings and Events

Duke Elsner

The Parallel 45 Vines & Wines/MSU Extension Friday meeting series continues on July 10, 3-5 pm at Bel Lago Vineyards. Our guest speaker will be Dr. George Bird from the MSU Department of Entomology, talking about the root biosphere and soil health. There is no charge for this meeting.

The 7th Annual Parallel 45 Pig Roast will take place on 18 July 2015 at Werner and Margaret Kuehnis's home located at 12467 Center Road. The Roast will begin at 2:30pm. The cost for the pig and the pig-roaster will be about \$550. Marcel will order two portable bathrooms. Tom will bring glasses, plates and silverware and order the pig and the keg. Georgia will take care of the P45 Check-in table. All attendees should bring a dish to pass and a bottle of wine. The cost will be \$10 for P45 members and \$15 for non-members.

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.

Saskatoons

Duke Elsner

There is now quite a bit of ripe fruit on some of the earlier varieties. Growers need to be watchful of pre-harvest intervals in selecting pesticides to be used at this time.

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.



Save the Date:
RidgeFest 2015
July 30th, 2015
12:30 pm

2015 Tour: Mark Youngquist, Ridgeview Orchards,
Joe Rasch Orchards NC140 Trial, Knights of Columbus

Company Name (s): _____

Member Name (s): _____

Address _____

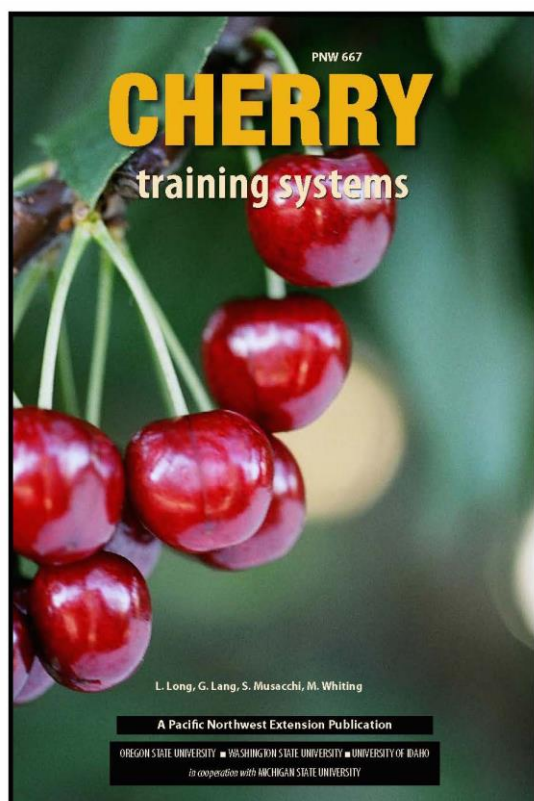
Email _____ Phone(s) _____

Checks payable to: Michigan Pomesters

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

Cherry Training Systems App

Greg Lang



Here is a link (http://shop.msu.edu/product_p/bulletin-e3247.htm) to download the new 63-page Sweet Cherry Training Systems Guide developed by myself and Lynn Long at Oregon State University earlier this spring.

It is now available as an app for iPads and Android tablets!

Download (free) the Cherry Training Systems Guide as a tablet app from iTunes or GooglePlay:

iPad (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/cherry-training-systems/id1007736058?ls=1&mt=8>)

Android tablets

(<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=edu.oregonstate.cherrytraining&hl=en>)

The guide describes the natural growth habit of cherry

trees, options for rootstocks that can affect tree growth and precocity, pruning and training techniques to achieve managed and efficient orchard production of high quality fresh market fruit, and the matching of rootstocks and training systems to variations in orchard site growth conditions. It is available free as a downloadable file for printing or as a free application for computer tablets like the iPad or Android-based tablets. The Pruning Guide tablet app is easily navigated by touching pictures of each system, swiping across the screen to switch between systems or pull up expanded illustrations, and/or scrolling up and down through each year of training operations.

Seven distinct tree canopy training systems are described, three multiple leader systems and four single leader systems. The multiple leader systems include the Kym Green Bush (KGB), the Spanish Bush (SB), and the Upright Fruiting Offshoots (UFO), which is a trellised system to create either a vertical narrow fruiting wall (UFO) or dual inclined narrow fruiting walls (UFO-Y). The single leader systems include the Steep Leader (SL), the Vogel Central Leader (VCL), the Tall Spindle Axe (TSA), and the Super Slender Axe (SSA), which also creates a vertical narrow fruiting wall. The description of each training system includes recommended rootstocks, tree spacing, and year-by-year training goals and developmental steps.

Note that the Training Guide is supplemented by nearly 2 dozen YouTube video clips as well.

The Cherry Training Systems Guide can be supplemented by a 23 segment video series (nearly 3 hours total, developed by Jon Clements, Extension Specialist at University of Massachusetts, and Win Cowgill, Extension Specialist at Rutgers University) of pruning demonstrations by Gregory Lang and Lynn Long available on the Gisela Cherry YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/giselacherry/videos>.

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**

Leelanau County

Location: Jim and Jan Bardenhagen, 7881 Pertner Rd, Suttons Bay

Dates: June: 23 (cookout), June 30 **July: 7* Final meeting**

Time: 12PM – 2PM

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

Antrim County

Location: Jack White Farms, 10877 US-31, Williamsburg (is not correct in Google Maps) *North of Camelot Inn and South of Elk Rapids on the southeast side of US-31*

Dates: July: 1 (cookout), **8* Final meeting**

Time: 10AM – 12PM

Benzie County

Location: Blaine Christian Church, 7018 Putney Rd, Arcadia, MI 49613

Date: July: 1 (cookout), **8* Final meeting**

Time: 2PM – 4PM

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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>