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Northern Michigan FruitNet 2009 Weekly Update NW Michigan Horticultural Research Station

[Nikki Rothwell](#)

District Horticulturist

[Erin Lizotte](#)

District Fruit IPM/IFP Agent

[Bill Klein](#)

Farm Mgr, NWMHRS

[Duke Elsner](#)

Agricultural & Regional Viticulture Agent

August 4, 2009

GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF August 3rd AT THE NWMHRS

Year	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	19yr. Avg.
GDD42	1987	2179	2533	2554	2579	2027	2269.4
GDD50	1180	1379	1665	1670	1731	1220	1453.9

Growth Stages at NWMHRS (8/3- 4:00 p.m.)

Apple: McIntosh – 54 mm fruit

Yellow Delicious – 56 mm fruit

Gala – 46 mm fruit

Red Delicious – 46 mm fruit

Pear: Bartlett: 36 mm fruit

Sweet Cherry: Hedelfingen: Harvested

Napoleon: Harvested

Gold: Harvested

Tart Cherry: Harvested

Balaton: Nearing harvest

Apricot: Harvested

Plum: 29 mm fruit

Grapes: Buck shot berries

Weather Report

A bit of a broken record here in the north: cool and wet. The past week was more of the same type of weather we have seen all season. Thus far, we have accumulated 1958 GDD base 42 and 1168 GDD base 50. We also received significant rainfall around the region on Monday, anywhere from 0.5" to almost an inch. The most northern areas have remained wet for a considerable period; for example, the Northport station recorded small amounts of rain for seven days.

Crop Report

All fruit continue to size, and apples are showing a bit of color. Apricots harvest is just beginning and some growers have picked some very early varieties of peaches. Tart cherry harvest is still in full swing, and variability in ripeness continues to be an issue. Trees with heavy crop loads have lots of immature fruits compared to trees with lighter loads. Additionally, fruit on the inside of trees is still pinkish in color while the outer cherries are plump and fully red. Many growers are waiting for more uniform ripeness before harvesting.

Pest Report

Apple: The big news in apples this week is **apple maggot (AM)**. We caught our first three apple maggots at the Research Station and have received reports from crop consultants of AM activity with some orchards having high pressure. **Spotted tentiform leafminer** emergence continues in high numbers for the third week in a row. **Codling moth** numbers are low with an average of one moth/trap this week. **Obliquebanded leafroller (OBLR)** continue to emerge with an average of 8 per trap in apple sites this week. Susceptible apple varieties are showing **apple scab** lesions with fruit scab in some area blocks.

If you are seeing scab in your orchards and are concerned about fungicide efficacy, we are testing a limited number of orchards this year. To collect a sample, gather 50 leaves, with actively growing (chocolate brown and fuzzy) lesions, in a paper bag and store in a cool place. You may drop them off in a well marked bag at the Research Station. Please include your name and phone number, apple variety, and closest crossroads to the orchard. Samples will be accepted and evaluated this fall/winter. For more information, contact Erin at 231-946-1510.

Cherry: **Obliquebanded leafroller** numbers rebounded slightly this week in tart cherry blocks at the Station where we have caught an average of 17 moths per trap. **Lesser peachtree borer** numbers are down this week with an average of 4 per trap. **Greater peachtree borer** continue to emerge steadily with an average of 20 moths/trap. **American plum borer** numbers rebounded this week with an average of 14 moths per trap. In one block, we caught *hundreds of cherry fruit fly* this week, and we also recorded a significant number of **black cherry fruit fly**. For more information on cherry fruit fly, see the article below. Much of the region's weather stations reported a low **cherry leaf spot** infection potential with the

ongoing wetting event in recent days. Cherry leaf spot symptoms are becoming visible.

Winegrapes: Grapes continue to grow, and many regional vineyards are at berry touch. **Leafhopper** pressure is variable around the region, and we have little evidence of **powdery mildew**. Based on a biofix of wild grape bloom on June 19th, the model is forecasting the start of second generation egg-laying next week.

Don't forget the *First Friday Winegrape* meeting this week at **2 Lads** on Old Mission. The focus of the session will be defining sustainability in our region and will be led by Paul Jenkins, MSU Small Fruit Coordinator. Steve Van Timmeren will also be on hand to update us all on grape berry moth activity in the area. Pesticide recertification credits will be available and there is no cost for this program. Following the educational session, Parallel 45 Vines and Wines will provide bread and cheese to accompany the wines that attendees traditionally bring to share. We hope to see you there!

LATE HARVEST AND CHERRY FRUIT FLY

N.L. Rothwell, District Horticulturist

Cool temperatures and slow ripening fruit have caused delays in tart cherry harvest around the region. We want to remind growers that are waiting for cherries to ripen, which in many cases is taking longer than anticipated, to keep covered for cherry fruit fly (CFF). In recent years, we have documented that the majority of CFF egg-laying occurs post-harvest, which is less of an issue in a 'normal year' when most fruit is off the tree by the time CFF oviposition peaks. Females will likely deposit their eggs at a similar time this year, but as temperatures have been cool, we will be harvesting later than usual and the crop will still be hanging and are susceptible to CFF. This situation could be risky as much of the fruit will still be on the tree while CFF are at peak egg-laying. In addition, some of the newer materials have a shorter life span in the field. For example, an insecticide tank-mixed with the ethephon application may not provide adequate residue if cherries are not harvested until 10-14 days post-spray. We have also had a tremendous amount of rain, and depending on the time of insecticide application, even less residue may be present on the fruit. Growers should be diligent about CFF control as many factors may present an issue at harvest time.

LAST WINE GRAPE IPM UPDATE

Paul Jenkins, Small Fruit Education Coordinator, MSU

We will be talking about the issue of sustainability for Michigan wine grape growers and wineries at our next Grape IPM meeting:

Date: **August 7th**

Time: 3:00-5:00PM

Host/Location: 2 Lads Winery (OMP)

In preparation for this meeting, I have compiled a list (see below) of things to think about. I would like to have a round-table discussion about what sustainability means to you and how MSU programs can help the industry achieve these goals.

1. The term 'sustainability' means different things to different people. If we are going to attempt to move our industry toward more sustainable production practices (either in the vineyard or winery), then what does sustainability mean to you?
2. What role can MSU play, in terms of research and programs, to help the industry meet their goals toward sustainability?
3. As the industry becomes more sustainable, what potential pitfalls might be encountered? What are some potential solutions to these problems or how could we possibly avoid these pitfalls?
4. The Grape*A*Syst program, which was launched last April, was largely an effort to help meet the needs of the Michigan juice grape industry. It has been suggested that we use this program as a launching pad for a guide to sustainability in wine grape production and wineries. As part of the wine industry, are you interested in pursuing a project like this? What do you feel are the benefits of having a program specific to the wine industry?
5. What are your thoughts on a third party sustainability certification program for Michigan wine grape growers? Please think of this in the context of the Lodi Rules program in California. Do you see a marketing benefit for sustainability, either as a grower selling fruit to a winery or as a winery selling wine to the public?

Hope to see you at the meeting!

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Insect and disease predictive information is available at:

<http://www.enviroweather.msu.edu/home.asp>

60 Hour Forecast

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

Information on cherries is available at the new cherry website:

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

Fruit CAT Alert Reports

<http://www.ipmnews.msu.edu/fruit/>

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

<http://www.maes.msu.edu/nwmihort/faxnet.htm>

[ACTUAL AND PREDICTED DEGREE-DAY
ACCUMULATIONS SINCE MARCH 1, 2009](#)

Please send any comments or suggestions regarding this site to:

Bill Klein, kleinw@msu.edu

Last Revised: 8-4-09



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Agricultural & Regional Viticulture Agent

August 11, 2009

GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF August 10th AT THE NWMHRS

Year	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	19yr. Avg.
GDD42	2163	2377	2758	2763	2805	2190	2462.5
GDD50	1300	1521	1835	1823	1901	1328	1591.0

Growth Stages at NWMHRS (8/10/09- 4:30 p.m.)

Apple: McIntosh – 60 mm fruit
Yellow Delicious – 58 mm fruit
Gala – 48 mm fruit
Red Delicious – 52 mm fruit

Pear: Bartlett: 40 mm fruit

Plum: 33 mm fruit

Grapes: Berry touch

Weather Report

The weather is shaping up for a warm week—meteorologists are predicting temperatures in the 80's and sunny. Last week was a different story with cooler wetter temperatures. Thus far this season, we have accumulated 2163GDD base 42 and 1300GDD base 50. These numbers are still low compared with our 19-year average: 2463GDD base 42 and 1591 base 50. We received 0.53" of rain for the week through 1 August, 1.27" during the week of 2 August through 8 August, and 0.23" 9 August through 15 August. The total rainfall for August is 1.5".

Crop Report

Pears are sizing and are at 40-50mm. Apples are also in the 48-58mm size range. At the station, we have harvested all sweets, Montmorency, and Balatons. However, cherry harvest continues throughout the north. As of 1 August, we harvested 61.4 million pounds of the 150 million pounds estimated. Last week, fruit quality was very good despite some color issues with ripening. However, as temperatures increase and with the recent rains, we are expecting to see more soft fruit showing up, particularly in fruit growing on heavier soils. Many growers think we will pick more fruit than was estimated. Some growers are starting to harvest earlier varieties of peaches. Raspberry harvest is winding down. Apricot harvest is finished here at the station but in full swing further north. Wine grapes are at berry touch and many growers are pruning/hedging due to significant growth with the cool, wet weather.

Pest Report

Apple: We caught our first three apple maggots at the Research Station last week and have received reports from area crop consultants of variable activity of this pest. This week, we caught *no apple maggot*. **Spotted tentiform leafminer** emergence continues in high numbers for the fourth week in a row with 100's per trap. **Codling moth** numbers continue to be low with an average of three moths/trap this week. **Obliquebanded leafroller** (OBLR) are emerging with an average of 14 per trap in apple sites this week. **Oriental fruit moth** numbers average 9 per trap. Susceptible apple varieties are showing significant **apple scab** infections with **fruit scab** not uncommon around the region.

Cherry: **Obliquebanded leafroller** numbers remain steady in tart cherry blocks at the Station, where we have caught an average of 15 moths per trap. **Lesser peachtree borer** numbers are down this week with an average of 10 per trap. **Greater peachtree borer** continue to emerge with an average of 12 moths/trap. **American plum borer** averaged 14 moths per trap this week. In one unsprayed block, we caught hundreds of **cherry fruit fly** for the second week in a row; we also recorded a significant number of **black cherry fruit fly**. Much of the region's weather stations are recording an ongoing wetting period triggering variable levels of **cherry leaf spot** infection potential. Cherry leaf spot symptoms are quickly becoming visible and intense in untreated tarts around the region.

Wine grapes: Grapes continue to grow, and many regional vineyards are at berry touch. **Leafhopper** pressure is variable around the region. Symptoms of **leafroll virus** have been spotted in some area vineyards. Based on a biofix of wild grape bloom on June 19th, the **grape berry moth** model has predicted the start of egg-laying. We have heard reports of the first few **Japanese beetle** in the region and received our first report of **powdery mildew**. Growers should also be on the lookout for symptoms of **anthracnose** and *Phylloxera* as these have also been observed this past week; however, these diseases are not common in the north.

POST HARVEST SPRAYS FOR CHERRY LEAF SPOT

Nikki Rothwell, NWMHRS
George Sundin, Plant Pathology, MSU
Erin Lizotte, NWMRHS

Cherry leaf spot is the most important fungal disease of tart cherry in Michigan. The leaf spot fungus *Blumeriella jaapii* infects leaves with symptoms first appearing on upper leaf surfaces as small purple spots. As spots accumulate on leaves, the leaves turn yellow and fall. The amount of lesions required to cause leaf yellowing and drop is variable. Late summer (August, early September) defoliation reduces the ability of trees to store photosynthate in roots leading to an overall loss of vigor and leaving trees more susceptible to killing by winter injury. Early-defoliated trees also typically exhibit reduced flower bud formation and often set less fruit the following season.

As harvest will be winding down for cherries, many growers will be considering post-harvest applications for cherry leaf spot (CLS). Considering the considerable amount of precipitation this season, disease pressure is higher than in past seasons. We have also seen CLS lesions showing up in the region, and we have observed defoliation in some sites. For these reasons, growers may want to opt for making a post-harvest application for CLS.

Leaves typically fall from branches a few weeks after they begin to show disease symptoms. Thus, the goal of a cherry leaf spot management program is to maintain a healthy canopy on trees at least through the end of September. This recommendation would ensure an adequate amount of leaves on trees into late October and beyond. Because of the wet weather this season, most growers, particularly those with CLS symptoms already present in the orchard, should be using a post-harvest spray.

The fungicide of choice for leaf spot control after harvest is chlorothalonil (Bravo). Bravo 82.5 WDG at a rate of 3 lbs/A provides excellent leaf spot control. In addition, Bravo is a broad spectrum fungicide and thus is not subject to fungicide resistance concerns.

GUIDELINES FOR COLLECTING PLANT TISSUE SAMPLES FOR NUTRIENT ANALYSIS

Eric Hanson, Dept of Horticulture, MSU
James E. Nugent, District Horticulturist Emeritus, MSUE

Tissue analysis is the best method to assess tree, vine or bush nutrient needs. The window for collecting nutrient samples in NW Michigan is from mid-July to mid-August. We strongly encourage nutrient analysis be done at least every two to three years. It is best to combine this with soil samples taken from the same blocks. This combination allows a good analysis of nutrient and lime needs.

Plant tissue analysis can be effective in monitoring the nutrient status or trouble-shooting poor growth of a crop. The following points and sampling guides will help insure collection of a good diagnostic plant tissue sample:

Collect sample from a minimum of 20 plants representative of the field, orchard or vineyard.

Do not collect leaves damaged by disease or insects.

If diagnosing a problem, collect separate samples from poor and good areas aid in the diagnosis.

Rinse the sampled tissue in clean water to remove dust, soil or spray residue.

Dry samples before sending to the lab by laying samples out in the air (do not oven dry).

Send samples in paper bags (not plastic) to the MSU Soil and Plant Nutrient Laboratory or another tissue testing laboratory.

Be sure to include the proper, completed information sheet. Tissue sample forms for the MSU lab are available through your county Extension office or NW Michigan Horticultural Research Station.

Tree fruits – Collect 100 leaves from the middle of the current season's growth.

Vineyards – Collect a total of 100 leaf petioles (stems) from the most recently matured leaves near the center of the shoot.

Undersides of mature leaves are generally darker than those of young leaves. Do not use leaves adjacent to fruit clusters.

Blueberries – Collect a total of 100 leaves from the middle of the current season's growth. Do not use leaves close to fruit clusters or on one year old canes.

If you have any questions on how to collect tissue samples, call your local county Extension office or District Horticultural Agent. If sending samples to MSU, the cost per sample is \$27 again this year. Include a check payable to **Michigan State University** with sample(s) to avoid an MSU billing fee.

The [Fruit Tissue Information Sheet](#) below is also available as a printable PDF form.

FRUIT TISSUE INFORMATION SHEET

Mail to: MSU Soil and Plant Nutrient Lab
A81 Plant and Soil Sciences Building
East Lansing, MI 48824-1325
517/355-0218

Grower Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Analysis desired: Complete w/N: _____ Complete w/out N: _____ N alone: _____

Paid: _____ Amount: _____ Check Number: _____

Charge client: _____ Charge county: _____

Results are sent to a MSU Extension District Horticultural Educator to be interpreted and forwarded to the grower.

Sample ID	Fruit Crop	Variety	Plant Age	Lab ID

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<http://www.enviroweather.msu.edu/home.asp>

60 Hour Forecast

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

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Bill Klein, kleinw@msu.edu

Last Revised: 8-11-09

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Agricultural & Regional Viticulture Agent

August 18, 2009

GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF August 17th AT THE NWMHRS

Year	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	19yr. Avg.
GDD42	2376	2564	2957	2947	2996	2320	2646.3
GDD50	1457	1652	1978	1951	2036	1402	1718.8

Growth Stages at NWMHRS (8/17/09- 4:30 p.m.)

Apple: McIntosh – 64 mm fruit
Yellow Delicious – 59 mm fruit
Gala – 51 mm fruit
Red Delicious – 62 mm fruit

Pear: Bartlett: 44 mm fruit

Plum: 35 mm fruit

Grapes: Berry touch

Pest Report

Apple: We caught no **apple maggot** for the second week in a row. **Spotted tentiform leafminer** emergence continues in high numbers for the fourth week in a row with 100's per trap this week. **Codling moth** numbers remain low with an average of two moths/trap this week. **Obliquebanded leafroller** (OBLR) emergence has dipped with an average of 5 per trap in apple sites. **Oriental fruit moths** are averaging 10 per trap. Susceptible apple varieties are showing significant **apple scab** infections with **fruit scab** not uncommon around the region.

Cherry: **Obliquebanded leafroller** numbers are down this week with an average of 5 moths per trap. **Lesser peachtree borer** numbers remain steady with an average of 16 per trap. **Greater peachtree borer** also continue to emerge with an average of 2 moths/trap and **American plum borer** averaged 6 moths per trap. In one block, we caught hundreds of **cherry fruit fly** for the third week in a row. Much of the region's weather stations have recorded three moderate **cherry leaf spot** infection periods over the past week. Cherry leaf spot symptoms are quickly becoming visible and intense in treated and untreated tarts around the region. Post harvest applications of chlorothalonil are recommended under high pressure. Post harvest applications have been shown to push the date of defoliation back allowing trees to properly reallocate carbohydrates to the root system.

Winegrapes: Grapes continue to grow and most area vineyards are at berry touch. **Grape berry moth** pressure seems low around the region, with only one of our scouted vineyards recording a trap catch of 4 moths. Based on a biofix of wild grape bloom on June 19th, the grape berry moth model has accumulated 1,138 DD42 of the 1,620 DD42 that may be the timing of egg laying for the current generation. We are seeing very little **powdery mildew**, but growers should be on the lookout for symptoms as conditions have been favorable for disease development. Increased numbers of **potato leafhopper** (nymphs and adults) were also spotted this week.

NORTHWEST STATION 30TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

Schedule

- 1:00-3:00 p.m. Equipment Show
- 3:00 All groups meet in NWMHRS conference room
- 3:00-3:20 Introduction to new irrigation system at NWMHRS, *Dr. Nikki Rothwell, NWMHRS*
- 3:20-3:30 Meet the new NW Farm Management Educator, *Curtis Talley, MSU-E*
- Tree Fruit Session
- 3:30 Board wagons for sweet cherry pathology trials
- 3:35-4:05 Latest updates for tree fruit diseases, *Dr. George Sundin, Dept. of*

Plant Pathology

- 4:05-4:15 Sweet cherry tunnel research update, *Dr. Greg Lang, Dept. of Horticulture*
- 4:15-4:30 Introduction to stem-on project, *Dr. Nikki Rothwell*
- 4:30-4:35 Board wagon for entomology block
- 4:35-4:50 What's new on Enviroweather for fruit growers?, *Beth Bishop, Enviroweather Coordinator*
- 4:50-5:15 Tart cherry RAMP update, *Dr. Mark Whalon, Dept. of Entomology, Dr. Nikki Rothwell and Erin Lizotte, NWMHRS*

Winegrape Session

- 3:30-5:00 Winegrape breeding, vineyard establishment, refurbishing old vineyards, and grafting, *Dr. Krasokhina and Dr. Khisamutdinov, Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences*
- 5:15-6:00 Social hour with wine tasting
- 6:00- Dinner and Leelanau Horticultural Society annual meeting

Dinner, to be catered by Epicure Catering of Omena, will feature local produce and is available for \$12 per person for those who have made advance reservations or purchased at the door for \$15.

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<http://www.enviroweather.msu.edu/home.asp>

60 Hour Forecast

<http://www.agweather.geo.msu.edu/agwx/forecasts/fcst.asp?fileid=fous46ktyc>

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Agricultural & Regional Viticulture Agent

August 25, 2009

GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF August 24th AT THE NWMHRS

Year	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	19yr. Avg.
GDD42	2542	2761	3136	3134	3168	2463	2826.7
GDD50	1568	1793	2100	2082	2151	1489	1843.3

Growth Stages at NWMHRS (8/24/09- 4:30 p.m.)

Apple: McIntosh – 69 mm fruit
Yellow Delicious – 61 mm fruit
Gala – 57 mm fruit
Red Delicious – 64 mm fruit

Pear: Bartlett: 46 mm fruit

Plum: 37 mm fruit

Grapes: Green fruit

Weather Report

We have seen some sun and warmer temperatures in recent days. However, our overall degree day accumulations remain behind our 19-year average. This season, we have accumulated 2542 GDD base 42 and 1567 GDD base 50, and both numbers are about 275 GDD behind the average. We have also had ample rainfall so far this August, where we have accumulated 3.88 inches of rain. More rain in the form of thunderstorms is predicted for the remainder of the week.

Crop Report

Apricots have been harvested here at the station, and pears are still sizing—46mm-58mm. We have also harvested all sweet and tart cherries. Unbelievably, growers in Northport are still harvesting Balatons and a few Montmorency blocks. However, most cherry harvest is winding down. As of week 7, northwest Michigan harvested 154.5 million pounds, which are more cherries than the USDA estimate of 150 million pounds. Many plums are still green, and the grapes are at green fruit. There are concerns in the winegrape community about ripening winegrapes this season. Peach harvest has started, and Red Havens are coming off the tree. Some very early apple varieties can be found at the fruit stands, and McIntosh are at 69mm, Gala are 57mm in size, and Red Delicious is 64mm here at the station.

Pest Report

Apple: We caught no **apple maggot** for the third week in a row. **Spotted tentiform leafminer** emergence has slowed this week with an average of 60/trap as opposed to the 100+ trap catches over the past month. **Codling moth** numbers remain low with no moths in the traps this week. **Obliquebanded leafroller** (OBLR) emergence continues at a low level with an average of 2 per trap in apple sites. **Oriental fruit moth** are averaging 20 per trap. Susceptible apple varieties are showing significant **apple scab** infections with **fruit scab** not uncommon around the region.

Cherry: **Obliquebanded leafroller** remain scarce this week with an average of 4 moths per trap. **Lesser peachtree borer** numbers remain low with an average of 9 per trap. **Greater peachtree borer** emerged at higher numbers this week with an average of 28 moths/trap and **American plum borer** averaged 6 moths per trap. **Cherry fruit fly** emergence slowed this week with trap catches between 7-64. Much of the region's weather stations have recorded a long wetting period associate with a rain system in the region on the 20th. The long span of the wetting period triggered a high **cherry leaf spot** infection potential. **Cherry leaf spot** symptoms are visible and intense in treated and untreated tarts around the region. Post harvest applications of chlorothalonil are recommended under high pressure. Post harvest applications have been shown to push the date of defoliation back allowing trees to properly reallocate carbohydrates to the root system.

Winegrapes: Grapes continue to grow, and most area vineyards are at green fruit developmentally. **Grape berry moth** pressure seems low around the region, with none of our scouted vineyards trapping moths this week and no evidence of larval infestation in clusters. Based on a biofix of wild grape bloom on June 19th, the grape berry moth model has accumulated 1,266 DD42 of the 1,620 DD42 that may be the timing of egg laying for the current generation. We are seeing a little powdery mildew on clusters and growers should be on the lookout for symptoms as conditions have been favorable for disease development. **Potato leafhopper** pressure is variable with some trap sites catching many adults, nymph activity appears to have dropped this week. **Phylloxera** symptoms are intensifying in infected vines and **lecanium scale** nymphs are being blown in from surrounding windbreak trees.

APPLE SCAB FUNGICIDE SENSITIVITY SCREENING 2009

Erin Lizotte, District IFP/IPM Educator

The NWMHRS, in collaboration with the Michigan State University Tree Fruit Pathology lab will be screening apple scab samples from northwest Michigan for sterol inhibitor and strobilurin sensitivity. We are looking to screen 30-50 sites and need to collect 50 leaves with active, brown scab lesions. If you have a site with symptoms, we can collect the sample or you can bring the sample to the Research Station or call to request that we collect a sample for you. To collect a sample yourself, collect 50 leaves from as many trees as possible and store in a paper bag in the refrigerator until you can deliver them. They may be stored together in one bag. A brief history of the use of sterol inhibitors and strobilurins for the orchard along with your contact information is greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact Erin Lizotte at (231) 946-1510.

UPDATE ON THE NEW FARM (*Farmer Assistance and Resource Management*) Program

Rob Sirrine, CED, Leelanau County

Reminder We have officially extended the application deadline for the New FARM Program until **September 15, 2009**. We hope you will have time to apply to participate in the young farmer leadership program--now known as the New FARM (*Farmer Assistance and Resource Management*) Program. We have received several applications and still have room for plenty more. We intend to kick-off the Program series in late October. Unfortunately, we did not receive USDA funding for the program, but we do have other funding pending.

The \$500 tuition fee has been changed to \$250/year to ease the financial burden for emerging farmers. We do not want the cost of the program to prevent anyone from applying, so please contact Nikki, Erin, or I with questions or concerns.

The New FARM Program is an extensive commitment but well worth it! Please visit our website at www.maes.msu.edu/nwmihort and click the "New FARM Program Application" link. The final program agenda will be presented at the October Kick-off Meeting at the Kettunen Center and will include four overnight trips and nine monthly evening educational sessions over a two-year period.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Insect and disease predictive information is available at:

<http://www.enviroweather.msu.edu/home.asp>

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

<http://www.ipmnews.msu.edu/fruit/>

Weekly CIAB Raw Product Report

<http://www.cherryboard.org/Production2009.htm>

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

<http://www.maes.msu.edu/nwmihort/faxnet.htm>

[ACTUAL AND PREDICTED DEGREE-DAY
ACCUMULATIONS SINCE MARCH 1, 2009](#)

Please send any comments or suggestions regarding this site to:

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Last Revised: 8-25-09

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