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## Northern Michigan FruitNet 2009 *Special Alert* NW Michigan Horticultural Research Station

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### RETAIN TIPS FOR USE 2009

Phil Schwallier, District Horticulturist  
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ReTain is an ethylene blocker in apple and thus, when applied, delays apple maturity. Ethylene is involved in the ripen process of apple. The following 5 tips are to remind you of its use in apple.

1. ReTain is dose dependent. Cutting the rate will reduce the delay in apple maturity.
2. Maximum ReTain response is obtained by applying ReTain at 30 days before anticipated harvest full rate per acre.
3. Reducing the rate is often performed to manage harvest timing and is often used on sensitive varieties, (Gala, Jonagold).
4. When temperatures are hot during August, some varieties will not respond as expected to ReTain. This year was not a hot year and thus we predict your normal rates should provide good results.
5. Reduced ReTain rates will still provide a benefit of cracking, greasiness, water core, bleeding and stop drop.
6. Applying the organic silicone surfactant is required with ReTain but the surfactant may increase the uptake of Captan and some leaf injury may result if Captan is applied near ReTain, (closer than 4 days before or after ReTain).

### 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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