

Weekly Berry Call – July 14, 2010

Participants: Colleen Cavagna (Allegany Cattaraugus Counties), Marvin Pritts (Ithaca/Finger Lakes region), Dale Ila Riggs (Stephentown/Northern Hudson Valley), Cathy Heidenreich (Geneva/Finger Lakes region), Molly Shaw (South Central NY)

GROWING CONDITIONS (courtesy NY NASS)

Week ending July 12, 2010: Temperatures averaged above to well above seasonal levels statewide as a southwest flow around high pressure across the southeast states brought hot and increasingly humid weather to the region. Precipitation amounts were near to above average across central and western New York and below average across much of eastern New York and Long Island. Most of the rain fell Friday into Saturday as a slow moving cold front crossed the state from the west. Showers and thunderstorms preceded and accompanied this front with the areal coverage most numerous across western and central New York and isolated to scattered across eastern portions of the state.

Cayuga County blueberry and bramble harvests were in full swing.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Allegany/Cattaraugus: Wind and rain last night. Showers have been hit and miss in the area accompanied by thunderstorms. *Blueberries* – some growers harvesting this week, others not.

Finger Lakes region/Ithaca: Rain skirting the area. *Strawberries* – renovation. *Blueberries* – bring harvested. *Raspberries* – rad, black raspberries being harvested. *Ribes* – red and white currants ready for harvest.

South Central NY: Need rain here. *Strawberries* – renovation ongoing; problems with cyclamen mites. *Blueberries* – harvest has begun. One grower reports yield impacted by frost. Yield loss occurred on a variety that happened to be in full bloom when the frost occurred. Clusters are loose, open, spotty; possibly *Botrytis* infection followed after damage. Variety next to the affected one was not in full bloom when frost hit and has full crop.

Finger Lakes region/Geneva: Weather hazy, hot, humid. Reports of rain gauges with 3.5' to 4" of rain on Saturday as front passed through Wayne County. Sustained torrential downpour early in the day, followed by steady rains with occasional downpours interspersed. Lots of standing water in fields that lasted into mid-week in some spots. Ontario County reported 1.5 to 2" of recorded precipitation during same day. *Strawberries* – harvest over. *Blueberries* – first and second week of harvest. *Raspberries* – summer reds still going strong; black raspberry harvest winding down.

Stephentown/Upper Hudson: showers, high humidity the past week. *Strawberries* – last strawberry harvest yesterday; renovating this week. Hopefully that helps reduce leaf spot to some degree. High Tunnel day neutrals entering second crop harvest. *Blueberries* – harvest started 1 week ago today; berries nice but fruit size not huge. Last year berries were nickel to quarter size due to large amounts of precipitation. *Raspberries* – harvesting inside and outside tunnels.

DISCUSSION:

Cyclamen Mites (revisited)

This week's discussion raised more questions than answers perhaps:

- Conditions causing mite flare ups (hot, dry springs i.e. this April?)
- Number of mites needed to cause damage (threshold established for NE Region?)
- Do varieties differ in susceptibility (Northeaster more susceptible)?
- Do nurseries treat for these pests?
- Are they using the same product arsenal as growers? Any known resistance?
- Can they be found in dormant crowns?
- Is nursery certification process perhaps not as robust as growers think? Nurseries not selling infested plant material deliberately. Often mite levels too low, mites too small for detection in dormant crowns; no visible symptoms. Same with anthracnose or powdery mildew. PCR tests to detect these pests?
- Seems to be a pattern where planting year, first fruiting year, fewer mites, damage minor; 2nd and 3rd fruiting years major damage? Due to population buildup? Loss of plant vigor as planting ages? Other factors?
- Predatory mites – do they work? Some reduction in damage observed when releases are early season. Spot release in hot spot areas. Will not halt a full-blown outbreak.
- Biology of the pest in the Northeast? Two population peaks – preharvest and again in early fall?

Weekly Berry Call – July 14, 2010

A concern was raised about pending loss of endosulfan registration. According to the 2010 guidelines endosulfan (Thionex) is the only product registered in NYS for cyclamen mite management. For more on the pending endosulfan registration loss, see: [New York Berry News Vol. 9, No.7, July 12, 2010](#). Dr. Greg Loeb informed us later via phone that NY recently (Feb 2010) received a 2ee exemption for Portal miticide, labeled specifically for cyclamen mite management. This [2ee label](#) must be in the applicator's possession at the time of application.

Dr. Loeb provided a cyclamen mite article he had written to help answer questions generated during the discussion (see second attachment). This article will also appear in the August NY Berry News.

For those interested in getting a rough estimate of possible cyclamen mite damage this season he suggested a v-shape sampling transect starting with outside row, moving inward to the middle of the planting then back out to other outside row. He suggested stopping at 25 points/crowns (or some suitable number thereof) and scanning for visual symptoms. Then he suggested recording # crowns infested/total # crowns looked at to get a rough estimate of damage, without having to look at numerous samples under the scope to find the tiny mites.

Blueberry Harvest Season Length

A question was raised as to whether the recent warm/hot conditions would possible condense (shorten) the harvest season this year. It was suggested that since blueberries are later-fruiting than other crops such as strawberries for instance, the harvest interval would average out in terms of last harvest date. The same would be true for a crop such as apples.

Weekly Berry Call – July 14, 2010

NY NASS Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, July 11th, 2010

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/2}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/2}				
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm	
<u>Hudson Valley</u>												
Albany	96	60	81	+10	218	1350	+329	0.30	-0.42	8.13	-3.05	
Glens Falls	95	54	78	+10	201	1132	+257	0.39	-0.24	7.66	-3.11	
Poughkeepsie	102	56	81	+9	215	1439	+366	0.60	-0.31	6.01	-7.04	
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>												
Boonville	89	59	74	+10	173	895	+231	0.24	-0.67	13.32	-1.77	
<u>Champlain Valley</u>												
Plattsburgh	97	62	80	+11	209	1081	+185	0.35	-0.28	8.45	-1.32	
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>												
Canton	91	60	78	+11	194	1099	+321	0.94	+0.23	11.30	+1.04	
Massena	93	62	79	+11	207	1140	+307	0.89	+0.19	9.79	+0.36	
<u>Great Lakes</u>												
Buffalo	92	62	77	+7	189	1266	+303	0.48	-0.20	13.52	+2.87	
Wales	88	56	74	+7	167	1029	+268	0.80	-0.04	12.31	-0.55	
Niagara Falls	92	59	77	+8	193	1310	+333	0.47	-0.16	10.61	+0.10	
Rochester	94	59	78	+9	200	1317	+370	1.26	+0.65	11.25	+1.95	
Watertown	90	60	77	+10	191	1112	+339	1.11	+0.69	10.16	+1.58	
<u>Central Lakes</u>												
Dansville	93	56	76	+6	182	1288	+345	1.14	+0.41	10.94	+0.23	
Geneva	93	62	78	+9	198	1273	+352	1.10	+0.40	12.12	+1.40	
Honeoye	93	56	76	+6	186	1246	+290	2.06	+1.40	13.90	+3.34	
Ithaca	94	56	77	+9	188	1170	+340	0.93	+0.15	9.24	-2.01	
Penn Yan	94	60	79	+10	203	1333	+412	1.40	+0.70	10.32	-0.40	
Syracuse	94	61	80	+10	210	1365	+408	0.67	-0.24	10.96	-0.87	
Warsaw	90	57	74	+9	172	1027	+323	1.46	+0.66	15.70	+3.27	
<u>Western Plateau</u>												
Angelica	92	55	75	+10	178	1121	+433	1.14	+0.26	12.47	+0.64	
Elmira	97	54	77	+9	194	1246	+360	1.14	+0.34	10.64	-0.29	
Franklinville	92	52	73	+8	158	958	+335	1.57	+0.72	12.84	+0.41	
Jamestown	91	54	75	+9	175	1096	+383	1.00	+0.08	12.30	-1.49	
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>												
Binghamton	92	60	77	+9	192	1262	+405	0.28	-0.54	10.19	-1.20	
Cobleskill	93	59	76	+10	185	1094	+301	0.47	-0.36	9.35	-3.10	
Morrisville	94	58	76	+9	182	1085	+339	0.48	-0.36	13.33	+1.12	
Norwich	95	34	75	+8	181	1057	+266	0.36	-0.46	11.70	-0.80	
Oneonta	94	57	77	+11	188	1117	+389	0.94	+0.03	11.53	-1.89	
<u>Coastal</u>												
Bridgehamton	100	61	80	+10	214	1354	+436	0.56	-0.14	6.75	-5.74	
New York	103	73	86	+11	256	1929	+562	0.01	-0.90	7.13	-5.48	

Weekly Berry Call – July 14, 2010

1/ Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning. The information contained in this weekly release is obtained in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension, USDA Farm Service Agency, the National Weather Service, Agricultural Weather Information Service and other knowledgeable persons associated with New York agriculture. Their cooperation is greatly appreciated. **Visit our website at www.nass.usda.gov/ny and click on “subscribe to NY reports” for instructions on subscribing electronically. You may also visit our website to access all our reports which are available for free online.**