

Weekly Berry Call – June 1, 2011

Participants: Molly Shaw (South Central/Southern Tier), Cathy Heidenreich (Western NY/Finger Lakes region/Geneva), Dale Ila Riggs (Stephentown, Eastern NY), Jeff Miller (Oneida County, Marcy), Sharon Bachman (Erie Co, East Aurora.),

Growing conditions: (courtesy NY NASS)

Week ending May 28, 2011: The week started out fairly dry and cool before a warm front brought isolated showers and thunderstorms Monday night into Tuesday. A warm front lifted north of northern New York and New England on Tuesday. A cold front passed through around Tuesday night with high pressure ridging in south of Hudson Bay with a brief return to seasonable temperatures during the midweek. By Thursday, the cold front lifted north as a warm front with a very active stretch of weather to close the week. Strong to severe thunderstorms impacted much of upstate New York as several waves of low pressure moved along the boundary that became stationary near the St. Lawrence River Valley. The heaviest rainfall from the showers and thunderstorms occurred over the Niagara Frontier, Finger Lakes Region, Adirondacks, and northern New York. The front began to move south of the region by late in the day on Saturday. Precipitation varied widely across the state with the lowest totals across the Capital Region, portions of central New York, and Long Island. Temperatures ended up finishing well above normal for the week.

In Ontario County, mold and mildew were problems for strawberries, fruit trees, and grapes. Some ripe strawberries were spotted and growers were picking their first crop over Memorial Day weekend. Also, large leaf spots caused by the fungal pathogen *Phomopsis* were observed in a strawberry crop being scouted by the IPM program.

Reports from the Field

Erie County

Dry this morning and the forecast says it should remain dry throughout the remainder of this week; next chance of precipitation Saturday. Hot and humid, but no record-breaking high temperature here yesterday as recorded in other areas. Strawberries are in bloom. Raspberries fully budded but not in bloom yet.

Western NY/Finger Lakes region/Geneva

Hazy, hot and humid the past few days, but no rain. Strawberries full bloom (late varieties) to green fruit (early varieties). Harvest beginning next week? Blueberries late bloom to petal fall for late varieties, petal fall to green fruit for early varieties. Earliest summer raspberries starting to bloom.

Oneida County

Another 2 or more inches of rain has fallen since last week's report. Strawberries looking good here; full bloom to green fruit.



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From farm visits late last week: Potential mummyberry shoot strike (left?) and a blossom blast (right - Botrytis? Anthracnose?) observed in blueberry plantings.



Possible root rot (Phytophthora?) or winter injury problems in fall raspberries:

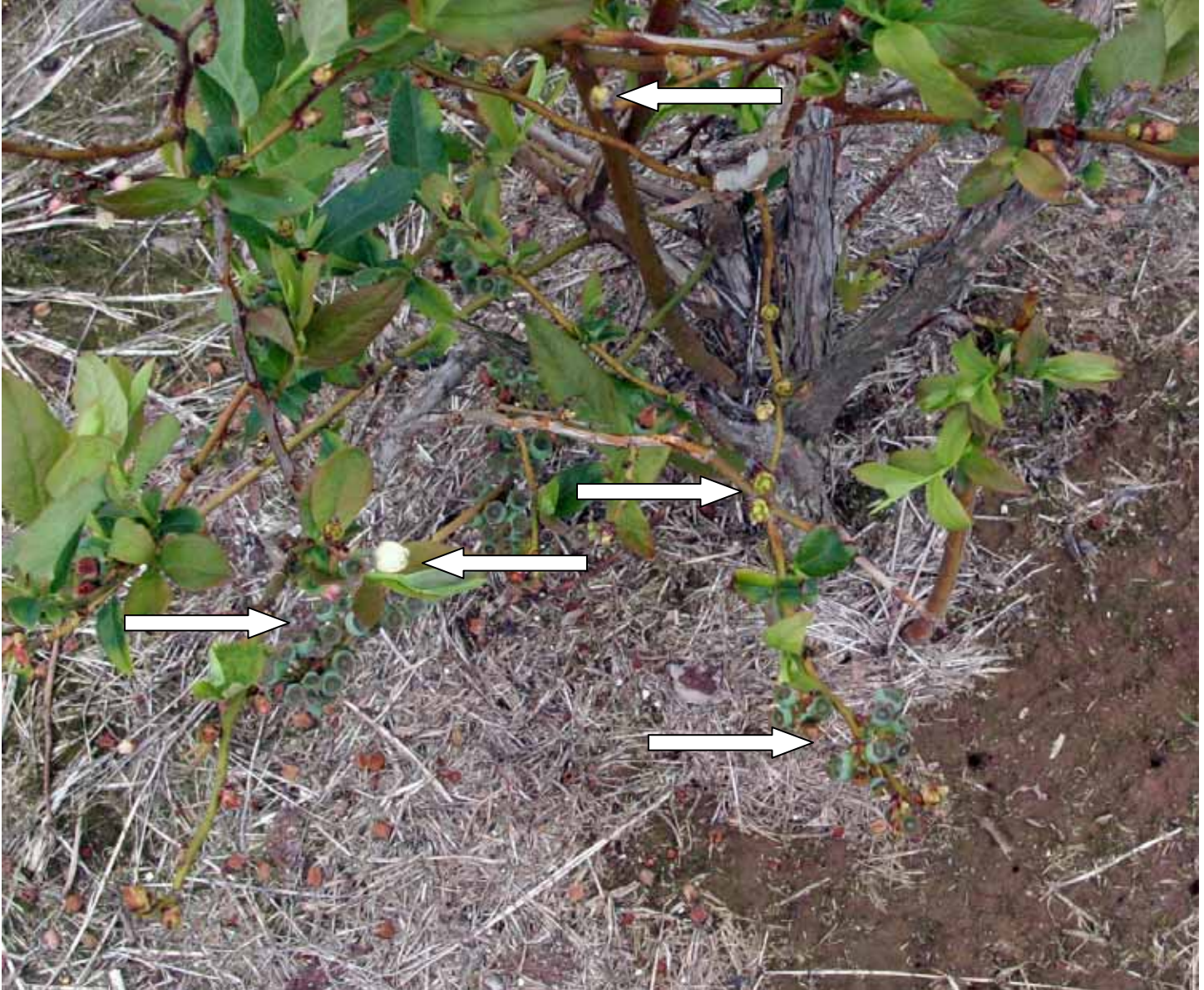


One field of 'Allstar' strawberries with heavy fruit set but minimal foliage and poor stand health.



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Unopened fruit buds on blueberry bushes along with both green fruit and bloom...



South Central/Southern Tier region

Strawberries no report; blueberries full bloom.

Stephentown, Eastern NY

Non row cover (RC) strawberries now in bloom. RC strawberries done bloom except late varieties 'Bounty' and 'Ovation' which are in full bloom. First red fruits appearing in the field (not ready for that yet!). Peak harvest of tunnel strawberries. Blueberries full bloom to petal fall. Several bushes showing development stages from flower buds not open to green fruit set on same bush. Appears fruit set (pollination) was good on blueberries, also strawberries. Very limited Tarnished Plant Bug (TPB) activity observed so far. Scouted 3X last week, 60 clusters per field and counted only one adult and one nymph. Summer red raspberries are in early bloom.

Troubleshooting:

Literature/anecdotal reports indicate Cyclamen Mites are worse in hot dry years. When best to scout this season to attempt to begin verifying if this concept is true, now during fruiting ? Later after renovation? The suggestion was to scout now as the damage is easier to find and identify vs. after renovation, plus you can scout for other things at the same time. One grower has success flagging hot spots in the field now and releasing predatory mites in these areas for control later.

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Has anyone seen blueberry bushes with several stages of development on the same bush i.e. unopened fruit buds, full bloom, green fruit? Reported to be not uncommon/infrequent in Stephentown. Observations there are that bloom starts at the bottom of the bush and works its way up so green fruit below, open blooms halfway up, unopened floral buds at the top of the bush. In the Oneida county location it appeared the opposite...

I found my first sap beetle in the field but there are no fully ripe fruit out there yet. Traditionally I have had no problems with this pest. They seem to have started moving into my plantings 2-3 years ago. Is there still monitoring for strawberry sap beetle going on NYS? What monitoring methods are best? Is Assail the best product to use? Should I apply it now?

This from Greg Loeb: "I am pretty surprised to hear strawberry sap beetle already showing up in the strawberry planting. I don't know what they would be feeding on. Is the grower sure he or she is dealing with strawberry sap beetle and not a related species? There is no specific monitoring protocols for SSB. We use the bread dough in a cup, set in the ground and covered with a screen that allows small beetles to enter. I can send recipe when I get back to Geneva (I am in New Jersey today). We also simply look for adults under ripe fruit that is touching the ground. I probably would try Brigade rather than Assail, although for both getting good coverage is important. In general I would not recommend treating SSB now (before ripe fruit is present) because most adults would not be in the field.

Is there trapping for Brown Marmorated Stinkbug going on in NY? Where are the traps located? Who would I contact to volunteer to do this in my area?

The Hudson Valley Regional Fruit Program has set up a web site for this pest and has a map posted with known monitoring sites across the state and confirmed presence of the pest: <http://hudsonvf.cce.cornell.edu/bmsb1.html>. The contact person for the project is:

Peter Jentsch, BMSB Project
Cornell Hudson Valley Lab
P.O. Box 727
Highland, NY 12528

The Capital District Vegetable and Small Fruit Program recently launched their BMSB monitoring program for the first time this spring. For more information on their program and for insider tips and tricks on trapping contact Laura McDermott, lgm4@cornell.edu.

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Weather Data for Week Ending Sunday, May 29, 2011

Station	Temperature (°F)				Growing Degree Days Base 50° ^{1/}			Precipitation (Inches) ^{1/}			
	High	Low	Avg	Dep. from Norm	Week	Season	Dep. from Norm	Week	Dep. from Norm	Season	Dep. from Norm
<u>Hudson Valley</u>											
Albany	86	54	69	+9	137	430	+172	0.08	-0.73	9.34	+3.18
Glens Falls	86	52	68	+9	124	339	+137	0.34	-0.50	9.61	+3.25
Poughkeepsie	87	53	69	+8	134	468	+171	0.21	-0.77	9.74	+2.20
<u>Mohawk Valley</u>											
Boonville	80	48	62	+7	86	213	+72	2.07	+1.06	16.13	+7.39
<u>Champlain Valley</u>											
Plattsburgh	78	49	62	+4	87	260	+56	3.41	+2.72	14.35	+8.88
<u>St. Lawrence Valley</u>											
Canton	76	47	62	+5	88	275	+102	1.63	+0.93	12.22	+6.59
Massena	82	47	63	+5	93	288	+94	1.70	+1.11	10.59	+5.59
<u>Great Lakes</u>											
Buffalo	78	52	65	+6	108	342	+104	2.63	+1.88	13.60	+7.81
Wales	77	48	64	+7	96	263	+88	1.87	+1.02	12.80	+5.68
Niagara Falls	76	50	64	+4	97	300	+45	1.21	+0.51	11.06	+5.16
Rochester	80	51	65	+5	107	334	+75	1.34	+0.71	10.21	+5.07
Watertown	78	49	63	+7	96	283	+106	1.01	+0.38	10.41	+5.39
<u>Central Lakes</u>											
Dansville	86	55	71	+12	146	429	+188	1.26	+0.55	8.79	+3.29
Geneva	85	51	66	+8	115	333	+105	1.21	+0.48	9.88	+4.19
Honeoye	86	50	68	+9	128	336	+102	1.17	+0.49	9.93	+4.34
Ithaca	85	48	66	+9	117	322	+124	1.60	+0.81	12.96	+6.98
Penn Yan	86	51	68	+9	126	361	+133	0.67	-0.06	8.94	+3.25
Syracuse	90	52	71	+11	148	480	+219	0.76	-0.01	12.37	+5.98
Warsaw	77	47	63	+8	96	244	+88	2.71	+1.86	13.68	+7.04
<u>Western Plateau</u>											
Angelica	84	50	66	+9	117	283	+107	1.62	+0.89	12.85	+7.41
Elmira	86	48	68	+10	128	362	+145	1.34	+0.57	11.02	+5.37
Franklinville	79	48	65	+11	108	258	+134	1.61	+0.76	15.13	+8.57
Jamestown	80	51	65	+10	109	297	+141	2.00	+1.06	13.40	+5.92
<u>Eastern Plateau</u>											
Binghamton	83	50	66	+8	115	326	+118	2.43	+1.66	15.72	+9.45
Cobleskill	84	49	67	+9	119	292	+107	0.33	-0.55	9.07	+2.39
Morrisville	81	48	64	+8	102	273	+99	1.23	+0.33	11.40	+4.86
Norwich	85	48	65	+8	109	313	+123	1.42	+0.54	13.23	+6.37
Oneonta	87	49	66	+10	115	310	+144	0.75	-0.23	14.39	+6.90
<u>Coastal</u>											
Bridgehamton	79	50	65	+6	103	328	+122	0.24	-0.60	6.57	-0.97
New York	83	53	69	+5	137	510	+90	0.02	-0.82	8.87	+1.50

^{1/} Season accumulations are for April 1st to date. Weekly accumulations are through 7:00 AM Sunday Morning