



NH Integrated Pest Management Newsletter

March 24, 2009

Volume V

No. 1

Orchard Sprayer Calibration Meeting

We are still working out final details, but George Hamilton and I, in collaboration with the NH Fruit Growers Association, wrote & submitted a grant proposal to NH Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food to bring Andrew Landers from Cornell University. If the funding comes through, he will offer a calibration session on April 16th, 9 AM to 3 PM, at the UNH Kingman Farm in Madbury. This is a workshop for NH tree fruit growers. There is limited seating, so **you must register in advance** to get in. We will probably limit it to one person per farm. Dr. Landers will spend most of the time on airblast equipment, but he'll include some training on orchard herbicide spraying in the afternoon. If you'd like to attend, contact Suzanne Hebert, at 862-3200. NHDAMF has awarded 5 PAT recertification credits for the meeting.

Resources for Growers

This **IPM newsletter** will still be available only on the web, not as mailed hard copies. The web page where both the recent and back issues reside is at <http://extension.unh.edu/Agric/AGPMP/IPMNews.htm>. One of the advantages of placing these on the web site is that I can incorporate color photos, and I plan to keep doing that.

The **Fruit Pest Update telephone** will continue on the same schedule. I'll start March 31st, and record a new message on Tuesdays. I will incorporate pest information and reminders about deadlines and meetings. If all goes according to plan, I'll record the last one in early September. The telephone number is still 862-3763, and it runs continuously, so you can call any day, at any time.

Traps To Monitor Pests

Tarnished Plant Bug traps (white sticky cardboard rectangles):

Great Lakes IPM is the only supplier that I can find that offers TPB traps. Their address is 10220 Church Rd, NE, Vestaburg, MI 48891. Telephone: 800-235-0285, FAX: 989-268-5311 and email address is glipm@nethawk.com. They also have a website: www.greatlakesipm.com. They have lots of other traps & supplies, too.

Apple Blotch Leafminer/STLM traps:

Great Lakes IPM is the only supplier I can find.

Apple Maggot Traps:

Great Lakes IPM is one source. **Gempler's** is another. Their address is P.O. Box 44993, Madison, WI 53744-4993. Telephone: 800-382-8473, FAX: 608-662-3360 or on the web at: <http://www.gemplers.com>.

Corn Earworm & Fall armyworm traps

Both Great Lakes IPM and Gempler's have these traps

Both of these suppliers have other traps for codling moth, corn rootworms, varroa mite, greenhouse pests, also sticking agent, insect nets, magnifiers and more.

2009 New England Tree Fruit Guide

2007 was the first year we worked with colleagues at Cornell to put out a New England version of their tree fruit guide, instead of revising our New England Apple Pest Management Guide. There are advantages and disadvantages to this process. One advantage is that we cover tree fruit, not just apples. One disadvantage (or is it just a sign of the times??) is that the price is high. The final cost this year is over \$30 per copy. This year George Hamilton wrote another IPM grant proposal to NH Department of Agriculture, Food & Markets - Division of Pesticide Control. Part of it secures \$ to purchase copies for growers who attend the NH Tree Fruit Grower meeting March 24th (where speakers are brought in with NHDAMF funding).

Grower Meetings & Workshop Coming

*Thurs. April 16, 2009. **Airblast orchard sprayer calibration workshop.*** UNH Kingman Research Farm, Knox Marsh Rd (Rt 155), Madbury. Registration is at 8:30 AM, and this session goes until 3PM. We will provide a lunch. **You must pre-register (862-3200) to attend. There will be a \$10 fee for lunch. Limited seating.**

*Wed. April 22, 2009. **NH/VT Tree Fruit Grower twilight meeting.*** Riverview Farm, hosted by Nancy & Paul Franklin. 141 River Road, Plainfield. 5:30 - 8:00 PM.

*Wed. May 13, 2009. **New Hampshire Tree Fruit Meeting.*** UNH Woodman Horticultural Farm, Durham. 5:30 - 8:00 PM. Hosts: Bill Lord, John McLean and Evan Ford. Speaker: Eric Mader of Midori Horticultural Services, Madison, Wisconsin (presentation on native pollinators).

*Wed. June 10, 2009. **New Hampshire Tree Fruit Meeting.*** Cardigan Mountain Orchard, 1540 Mt Cardigan Road, Alexandria. 5:30 – 8:00 PM. Our hosts will be Steve and Nancy Bleilor.

*Wed. July 8, 2009. **New Hampshire Tree Fruit twilight meeting.*** Brookdale Fruit Farm, Hollis. 5:30 - 8:00 PM. We are working with Dr. Tracy Leskey, USDA on some research projects, and details of this and other work will be included. Our hosts will be the Hardy and Whittemore families.

Pruning Demonstrations Scheduled

Bill Lord is planning several pruning meetings, aimed at backyard fruit growers.

*March 28 - Belknap County. **Fruit Pruning Demo for Home Orchards.*** Scott Residence, 45 Gilman Drive, Gilford NH. 9:00-10:30am. Covers peach, plum, pear, raspberry, blackberry, blueberry and hardy kiwi. For info, contact Amy Ouellette at amy.ouellette@unh.edu or 603-527-5475.

*March 30 - Strafford County. **Fruit Pruning Demo & Pest Management Twilight Meeting.*** Miller Farm, 51 Miller Road, New Durham NH. 4:30-7:30pm. Covers apples, peaches, nectarines, plums, blueberries and strawberries. For info, contact Geoffrey Njue at geoffrey.njue@unh.edu or 603-749-4445.

*March 31 - Rockingham County. **Apple Pruning Demo.*** Rockingham County "Ladd Farm", 180 North Road, Brentwood NH. 3:30-5:30pm. For info, contact Nada Haddad at nada.haddad@unh.edu or 603-679-5616.

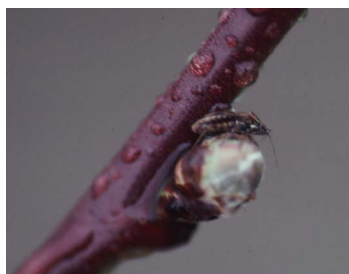
*April 4 - Carroll County. **Apple Pruning Demo.** Farish and Eleanor Jenkins', Freedom NH. 1:00-3:00pm. For info, contact Tina Savage at tina.savage@unh.edu or 603-447-3834.*

*April 11 - Cheshire County. **Apple Pruning and Grafting Demo.** Alfred & Linda Fletcher Residence, Rindge NH. 10:00am-noon. For info, contact Carl Majewski at carl.majewski@unh.edu or 603-352-4550.*

*April 18 - Coos County. **Fruit Tree Pruning Day.** Maycut Orchard, Bray Hill Road, Whitefield NH. 10:30am. For info, contact Steve Turaj at steven.turaj@unh.edu or 603-788-4961.*

Traps to Monitor Tarnished Plant Bug in Apples Go Up at Silver Tip Stage

The white sticky rectangle traps we use to monitor tarnished plant bugs in apples should be hung out at silver tip stage. They are helpful because TPB populations really vary from site to site. Some blocks (near recently fallow fields, alfalfa or red clover) have lots of TPB's and benefit from spraying most years. Others (especially ones surrounded by woods) have so few that it isn't worthwhile to spray for them. The traps help us tell what needs treatment, and what doesn't. Hang them towards the tip of a branch, **at knee height**, over a grassy part of the orchard floor. I tend to place them towards the perimeter of the orchard, unless there's good TPB overwintering habitat inside the orchard.



By checking them weekly, and writing down the numbers of TPB's caught, we can tell which blocks need treatment, and which ones don't. By checking with records from other years, you can get an idea of the "pressure" this year. TPB has 2 or 3 generations a year here, and it is the overwintered adults that attack fruit buds.

My photo at left shows one on a swelling peach bud. Buds that have been attacked often ooze droplets of sap, giving you a (temporary) indicator of the damage. In apples, feeding before tight cluster stage results in killed fruit buds or death of some individual flowers in that bud. Feeding during or after pink stage results in scabs and dimples that are visible on the fruit at harvest.

Eastern Tent Caterpillar Egg Masses

Since some backyard growers read this newsletter, I'll include this photo. Tent caterpillars are rarely a problem on conventionally managed orchards, but organic growers and backyard growers regularly have problems. One method to nip things in the bud (so to speak) is to recognize what the egg masses look like, and remove them when pruning. The shiny egg masses encircle the twigs, and typically the moths choose to lay masses on twigs that are almost pencil diameter. Here's a photo to help you out. Now, keep your eyes open when you are pruning! They are on apple, crabapple, plus cherries (including our native cherries, like black cherry, choke cherry, and others).



Pesticide Labels are Available Online

With so many pesticide label changes, wouldn't it be nice to be able to read the entire label BEFORE you bought something? You can do that if you have access to internet. Most pesticides registered on crops in NH are included on the CDMS (Crop Data Management System) website. Two areas where many products are missing are organic products and products targeted at backyard growers. I have been asked if it costs money to use the system. No. It is still open access. The manufacturers recognize that it is beneficial to get this information to you, and they don't have to keep reprinting new pesticide label booklets each year.

Most pesticide companies that market their products to commercial US growers pay money to have their products listed. You can also find Material Safety Data Sheets there. The website is continuously updated as new products become registered with EPA. The various labels and supplemental labels are all there. For those manufacturers whose products are not members, you'll have to look at their websites, to see their products. It is pretty good to have most of them in one spot. The web address is <http://www.cdms.net> When searching for a product, remember that spelling counts! If you find "no such product", check the spelling again, or try a slightly different version. Hyphens and spaces need to be correct.

Is a Pesticide Registered in NH?

The NH Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food has a link on their website to check and see if a pesticide is registered in New Hampshire. You can't look at the label that way, but you can at least see if it is registered here. Then, with that product name & formulation, you could go to another site (CDMS for example) and read the label. The link for that is on their website, and here it is, too: <http://state.ceris.purdue.edu/>

The first batch of pesticide labels for the year usually gets into that system in late spring (May?). If you really need to know about a registration in early spring, call NHDAMF and ask. Once we get farther into the season, the 2009 products will be there. Be certain to follow the search procedure properly, or you'll get wrong answers. Also, even when you search properly, this particular system (National Pesticide Information Retrieval System) regularly produces some errors that baffle me.

New Pesticides for Tree Fruit

I haven't been keeping up with this very well, but among the new pesticides available this year for tree fruit are the insecticides Belt and Movento, both from Bayer. Movento is new chemistry, and works on sucking insects, like aphids, San Jose scale, and pear psylla. It is pretty toxic to predator mites. Belt is also new chemistry. It controls caterpillars, and yes, this includes spotted tentiform leafminer. It is registered for both pome and stone fruits. Zeal (Valent) now has a supplemental label for the thousands of you now growing cherries. The fungicide Quash is a Valent product new to me, and is registered on stone fruit. It is one of the sterol biosynthesis materials (MOA group 3), and is registered for brown rot (both blossom and fruit phase) and powdery mildew. There are many other changes and modifications of existing products. The New England Tree Fruit Guide should have most of these, and you can always look for pesticide labels online (see earlier in this newsletter).

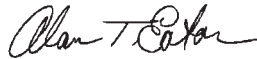
Canadian Legislation on "Cosmetic" Pesticide Use

The New Brunswick legislature is currently considering a law to limit or ban cosmetic pesticide use. When I read this, I immediately thought of the fungicides and insecticides we apply to crops where minor surface blemishes result in major drop in crop value (tarnished plant bug, flyspeck and sooty blotch injury on apples, for example). No, that doesn't seem to be what they're targeting. They seem to be focusing on pesticides to make

your lawn or garden look nicer --- herbicides to remove the dandelions, for example. The legislature will make a decision this spring.

In Ontario, similar legislation was passed already, and takes effect in April. It seems to be urban voters who largely swung the vote. Some farmers and agriculture officials think they will end up getting hurt by the law. As in the USA, backyard pesticide users don't have to prove that they can read the labels, in order to buy or apply many pesticides. They don't have to understand the principles of IPM, or how to properly calibrate a sprayer. But the law may limit what some feel is appropriate uses by farmers (who are trained in such things).

Quebec started things rolling by banning cosmetic pesticide use in 2006. So far I haven't heard about similar push in NH, but it may come. To me, this reinforces the importance of NH farmers using pesticides responsibly --- always following labels, obeying setbacks and other laws, and using them only when necessary, not as "chemical insurance". The media are very quick to jump on pesticide issues that may cause harm --- drift, contamination, bee kill, etc. Let's do our best to avoid that kind of publicity. Avoiding improper pesticide use also saves us money, helps protect our health, and that of our environment.



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