• Guthion Time Extension for Some Uses
• Increase in Powdery Mildew on Apples?
• OBLR on the Increase in New England
• BMSB Happenings
• Spotted Wing Drosophila Happenings
• Winter Weather & Pest Survival
• Bud Development
• Apple Scab
• 2013 New England Tree Fruit Management Guides
• New Bird Repellant Registered in NH
• Meetings

Guthion Time Extension for Some Uses
Andrea Szylvain (EPA, Region 1) sent this notice in December 2012:

In a November 28, 2012 Federal Register notice, EPA published an August 29, 2012, amendment to the agency’s February 20, 2008, cancellation order for the organophosphate insecticide azinphos-methyl (AZM). The amendment provides growers an additional year, through September 30, 2013, to use existing stocks of AZM in their possession on five crops — apples, blueberries, cherries (sweet and tart), parsley, and pears. As the agency announced in late August 2012, after considering comments from growers and other stakeholders EPA completed a final risk-benefit analysis for the remaining uses of AZM. EPA decided to maintain the September 30, 2012, effective date for cancellation of the remaining crop uses. However, due to unusual weather conditions in 2012 that prevented certain crops from developing, many growers were left with unused stocks of AZM. For this reason, EPA amended the existing stocks provisions to allow growers to use existing stocks of AZM in their possession on those crops for another year, through September 30, 2013. For further information, see dockets EPA-HQ-OPP-2005-0061 and EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0365 at www.regulations.gov, and the azinphos-methyl page in Chemical Search, www.epa.gov/pesticides/chemicalsearch/.

Increase in Powdery Mildew on Apples?
One of the things discussed by Northeast tree fruit IPM workers last October related to powdery mildew. We saw a lot of that last year, and the incredibly mild winter we had 2011-12 was a contributing factor.
This year the winter seems more normal, so I do not expect to see as much PM this growing season. But there is another factor, too. Many apple fungicides now available do not control PM. That may have contributed to the increase we saw with it last year, and could be a factor this year. I just wanted to mention it, so you might have that in the back of your mind.

**OBLR on the Increase in New England**

Formerly, this was not a New England apple problem. Robin and Glen (New England Fruit Consultants) reported this fall that oblique-banded leafroller is causing problems for increasing numbers of their (apple) clients. Last summer, I saw some serious injury from Maine. I took one look at the damage to the fruit, and called it redbanded leafroller. But the caterpillar (still there, feeding) had a **dark head**, which is not correct for that species. RBLR larvae have light heads. Rearing this specimen to the adult stage produced an OBLR two weeks later. I saw my first confirmed OBLR damage in a NH orchard in 2009, but likely there has been more. So if you see an increase in leafroller damage to your apples, take a closer look at the situation. You might be battling OBLR. It is **MUCH** harder to control than RBLR.

**BMSB Happenings**

As of February 2013, brown marmorated stinkbug has been confirmed from 11 NH municipalities: Chichester, Concord, Dover, Durham, Greenland, Nashua, Newington, Newport, Portsmouth, Rochester and Stratham. In ten of those towns, the specimens were from buildings. In one town, the specimens were on plants outdoors... woody nursery stock. We are still years away (hopefully) from finding significant agricultural damage from this insect in New Hampshire. We just learned that one southwestern Massachusetts orchard had BMSB damage found in November 2012, on fruit in bins (Delicious, I think). They are relatively close to the lower Hudson River Valley, where some BMSB apple damage was confirmed earlier in 2012.

To our south, Dr. Tracy Leskey is leading much research on BMSB. Her team has evaluated odor stimulants and has come up with one that works fairly well in early and mid-season. In late season, MDT (“rescue” lure) works much better than their new material, dubbed #10. They have also been working on visual lures, including colored lights. Some of their experiments looked like Christmas trees in July. By the time we begin having significant BMSB problems in NH crops, I'll bet we will have much improved monitoring for this new insect.

**Spotted Wing Drosophila Happenings**

Earlier this year, some of my colleagues in the eastern seaboard were in contact with EPA officials and pesticide companies, to see if it might be possible to get expansion of some insecticide labels for SWD. I thought it made sense here, too, so I’ve been working with pesticide companies to get expansion of some malathion labels via the 24c process (a state label). We will have details later this year, but hopefully it will
widen your options for controlling this new pest, since a higher (more effective) application rate is part of the plan.

In October, the extension fruit and vegetable team sent out a survey to assess the losses here to SWD. In February I completed the analysis. We lost $1.5 million worth of fruit to that insect in NH in 2012. The largest impact was to the blueberry crop. More details will soon be at the SWD page.

Winter Weather & Pest Survival

For pests that overwinter on the upper parts of the trees (European red mite, white apple leafhopper, powdery mildew fungus for example) the temperature during the winter is a factor that affects survival. That could be either 1) the lowest temperatures to which they were exposed (and how long) or 2) the amount and speed temperature fluctuation, from warm-ish to really cold.

For things that overwinter very low on the tree trunk (like two-spotted spider mite), or in plant debris on the ground (spotted tentiform leafminer, apple blotch leafminer, leafminer parasites, tarnished plant bug), winter survival is heavily affected by the amount of snow cover. Snow insulates and dampens temperature fluctuations. It also reduces drying of leaf litter and ground debris. Snow also hides voles from most of their numerous (and, in winter, very hungry) predators.

Looking at both situations, I’m guessing most of our apple pests probably have survived quite well, with the possible exception of powdery mildew fungus.

Bud Development

Fruit bud stages at UNH Woodman Farm on Monday morning, April 1, 2013:
Pioneer McIntosh Apple - dormant.
Peach - some buds slightly swollen.
Pear - dormant.
Japanese plums - swollen buds.
Eur. plums - dormant.
Blueberries - some buds are swollen, some dormant.

Apple Scab

The apple scab ascospore maturation model begins when 50% of the fruit buds on McIntosh are between silver tip and green tip stage. Hopefully we will be able to set up weather monitoring equipment shortly, to keep track of the spore maturation progress in Durham. As I write this, Apple buds are still dormant in Durham.

2013 New England Tree Fruit Management Guides

I brought copies of the 2013 New England Tree Fruit Management Guide to both the NH Vegetable & Berry Grower’s Assn. meeting (March 9) and the New England Fruit Grower Meeting, March 14th. I am planning on bringing more to other upcoming meetings, including our SWD meetings, and tree fruit twilight meetings. They cost $32 each, for the 276 page guide. As I write this, we have 15 left.
New Bird Repellant Registered in NH

In 2011, USDA/Wildlife Services staff asked that NH farmers document planting time losses to birds eating corn seed. The reason was to get anthraquinone registered in New Hampshire. If you are one of the growers who responded, thank you! Your reward is that the material has now been registered in this state. It is called Avipel Hopper Box Corn Seed Treatment, and the manufacturer is Arkion Corporation. The registration number is SLN NH 120001. When birds pull a treated seedling or two, and eat them, it is a bad experience for them, and they quickly learn to stop. For us, crows are usually implicated as doing this injury, but blackbirds are also targeted by this product. The label says thorough, uniform coverage of the seed is required, and you are allowed to make a single application per acre per season. For sweet corn, which is usually planted in blocks of several rows (each planting a week or 10 days apart), I interpret that to mean that you can treat each planting. You can figure out how much is needed by reading that 2 oz of product treats 25 lbs of seed. It is NOT registered for use on other seed, and cannot be used after July 1, 2014.

Notice that this is not labeled to keep birds from pecking ears of corn!

Meetings

**Fruit Pruning Meetings.** There are so many of these (eight in April) that I've included a link to the flyer (click on the title). Most of the pruning demonstrations are directed to backyard gardeners.

**Thursday April 1. Spotted Wing Drosophila Meeting** at Hill Library Center, 1151 Parker Mountain Road, Strafford, NH. 5 to 7 PM. Two (2) P.A.T. recertification credits are offered. There is limited space at this site; please pre-register with Suzanne Hebert 862-3200. We may have to cut off attendance. There are two other meetings planned, with the same content (15th in Meredith, 19th in Claremont).

**Monday April 15. Spotted Wing Drosophila Meeting** at Meredith Community Center (Meeting Room A), 1 Circle Drive, Meredith, NH 03253. 5 to 7 PM. Two P.A.T. recertification credits are offered.

**Wednesday April 17. Tree Fruit Twilight Meeting** at Demerritt Hill Farm, 66 Lee Rd (Rt 155) Lee, NH, 03861. 5:15 to 7:30 PM. Two (2) P.A.T. recertification credits are offered.

**Friday April 19. Spotted Wing Drosophila Meeting** at Claremont Savings Bank, 145 Broad St, Claremont, NH 03743. Two (2) P.A.T. recertification credits are offered. There is plenty of parking in the bank parking lot. The meeting room is on the lower level. NOTE: This at the 145 Broad St location!

**Monday April 22. SWD and IPM Meeting** at UNH Cooperative Extension - Goffstown office, 329 Mast Rd, Goffstown NH. 6 to 9 PM. George has applied for P.A.T. recertification credits.

---

Alan T. Eaton
Extension Specialist
Integrated Pest Management

UNH Cooperative Extension programs and policies are consistent with pertinent Federal and State laws and regulations, and prohibits discrimination in its programs, activities and employment on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran’s, marital or family status. New Hampshire counties cooperating.