



## NH Integrated Pest Management Newsletter

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### A 2006 Version of New England Apple Pest Management Guide?

No, that won't happen, despite our best efforts. With the reduction in New England extension people who work in fruit (both numbers of people and their percentage of time devoted to apples), we cannot find someone who can take on the job of editing this large publication. We are looking into the possibility of doing it in a manner similar to the NE Vegetable Mgmt Guide; creating a pot of money for someone to serve as overall editor, and having several section editors contribute corrections. We're looking into a grant, possibly other routes.

In the meantime, please don't feel as though the rug has been pulled out from under you. We will likely have several pages of new materials (and/or deletions) that we will distribute in the usual manner this spring. Also, if your copy is worn out, remember that we still have copies of the existing guide (2003-4) for sale at Extension's Family, Home and Garden Education Center (629-9494) (\$15). The guide is still available online at the UMass Cooperative Extension website <http://www.umass.edu/fruitadvisor/NEAPMG/index.htm>

Some of you know that there is an excellent tree fruit IPM guide published each year by our colleagues at Cornell. The NY guide is a little different. Some pest conditions are different there. For example, oblique-banded leafroller is a significant pest there, but not in NH. Also there are some pesticide differences — materials that are registered there, but not registered in NH (so not legal here). One advantage of checking it out is that the NY tree fruit guide includes peaches, plums and pears. We haven't had a New England PP&P guide for many years. The NY guide is also available online, at <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/treefruit/> The 2006 version should be available for sale in March.

### What's the Status of the New England Small Fruit Guide?

Sonia says that the revisions to the New England Small Fruit Pest Management Guide are finished, and she has quotes from printers. After looking into several options to fund this, she has decided to partner with the NEVBG Assn to co-produce it. The cost of the publication will be \$10 plus shipping and handling (same as last time). Growers should plan to order the guide from the Association by calling Sonia Schloemann or by online ordering after the Conference. It will be available for sale at the Conference (December 13-15, see below).

One change: Grapes have been deleted. I was one of those expressing concern over trying to revise the grape section, with almost no expertise on that commodity. I know that it is very common to have one variety of grape or another show phytotoxicity to this new chemical or that one. I have no experiments on this, so how could I avoid setting up our growers as guinea pigs? Others in New England were similarly distressed, so with no experts left, this section was deleted.

## OK, What About the Vegetable Guide?

The 2006-7 New England Vegetable Management Guide will be available at the December 13-15 NEV&F Conference in Manchester. The price will be \$15.00. It should be available both at the registration table and in the trade show, at the New England Vegetable & Berry Growers' Association booth. If you are a member of NEV&BGA, you are entitled to one complimentary copy of this (or the small fruit guide). As usual, UNH Cooperative Extension will also have the guide for sale. As I write this, we're unsure which offices will have them, but we'll know soon.

## New England Vegetable and Fruit Conference, Dec 13 - 15

In addition to the usual small fruit and vegetable information, this is the year that there will be sessions on tree fruit as well. It is in the Center of NH (now called Radisson Hotel, Manchester). Registering before November 30 will save you money. There will be a lot to do — check out the program details at <http://www.nevbc.org> You can also learn about pesticide applicator recertification credits at the web site. Sessions totaling 31.5 credits are offered!

## News From the NewEngl, NY, Canadian Fruit Pest Mgmt Workshop

Oblique banded leafroller, formerly a significant problem on apples in NY (and further away) is now causing problems in Massachusetts, and increasing in parts of Quebec and Ontario. NH apple growers may eventually have to deal with this critter.

A related insect, codling moth, is showing resistance to our pesticide programs in NY, Ontario and Quebec. For us, CM has always been easy to control. That might begin to change.

European fruit lecanium scale has been at high levels on some of our highbush blueberry plantings for 2 years. I am slowly learning that this became a significant problem (same time period) elsewhere. In Quebec, it appeared on apples near sugar maple groves. In Vermont and NH, it has been a big problem on forest trees (especially sugar maple). I'm guessing that the preceding, very cold winter killed a lot of the parasites that normally hold this in check. That would explain a simultaneous population increase over such a large area. Later I'll have results for you on our spray experiments for EFLS on blueberry; the work is still in progress.

Another reason to pick off flowers on newly planted apples and pears: reduce the risk from fireblight. Vincent Phillion (St-Hyacinthe, Quebec) pointed out that bloom on newly planted trees is late, therefore more likely to coincide with warm rain. That makes it a risky situation for fire blight. We haven't been reminding growers about this, so **consider yourself warned!**

One farm in Connecticut now grows 60 acres (!) of black currants. The juice tasted very good to me.

Pest Management Innovations, LLC is targeting 2006 to offer the pesticide-treated apple maggot traps ("curve balls") on the market. They are working to improve the traps, which now have the pesticide Entrust in them, making them acceptable for organic farms. Dr. Starker Wright will soon begin experiments with this on blueberry maggot. The company has a website, located at <http://www.bugtrappers.com/>

## Very High Incidence of "Summer Diseases" on NH Apples

I was very disappointed to discover that the incidence of flyspeck and sooty blotch on NH apples this year was the highest I've ever recorded, **by far**. Weather clearly was a factor, but growers' choice of fungicides and timing also affected the results. We are going to do several things in the coming year, to help you improve your management of summer diseases. One of them is to bring in Dr. David Rosenberger (Hudson Valley Lab) for a lecture this winter or spring. Stay tuned.

## **Biological Control of Apple Scab? What?**

That's right. Odile Carisse and Vincent Phillion (both in Quebec) were working on a biological control agent for apple scab. Odile's recent results were so encouraging that she got Bill MacHardy interested. (When something really exciting comes along, you come out of retirement.) This summer, we treated our UNH apples with the stuff, and we will see next spring how it affects apple scab. Yes, we are really excited. This could work extremely well with Bill's sanitation procedures.

## **Organic Materials Session at Farm & Forest Expo**

Becky Grube, Amy Ouellette and others have been planning an educational session on pesticides and other products for organic growers. The date will be Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Farm and Forest Expo, Hotel Radisson, Manchester. It will be an afternoon session, from 12:30-3:30 pm. We're not asking for advance registration – your admission to the Expo will get you in. Those who attend will receive a copy of the brand new Resource Guide for Organic Insect and Disease Management. For those of you who haven't seen it, this is a 169-page booklet with sections on organic management of diseases for several crop families and individual sections on efficacy and use of organically approved materials (like Bt, kaolin clay, neem, and many more). If you can't attend the session, the Guide is also available from NYSAES at <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/pp/resourceguide/> for \$5 plus \$4 shipping and handling.



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