Integrated Pest Management Program
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
UConn Extension

Fruit Update – 7/19/24

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Tissue Analysis:

Just a little reminder…..tissue sampling should be part of your nutrient management program. It is the best tool that we have to understand the nutritional statuses of our plants. Combined with regular soil testing, it allows for informed decisions and optimal plant nutrient levels.

- Optimal Timing for Analyses:
  - Tree Fruit – 60-70 days post petal fall
  - Grapes – bloom or version*
  - Brambles – late July to mid-August*
  - Blueberries – late July to mid-August*
  - Strawberries – at renovation
- How to Collect Samples:
  - Tree Fruit – collect leaves from this year's growth from the middle of a shoot (avoid vigorous suckers)
  - Berries – collect the most recently matured leaves
  - Grapes – collect petioles from young fully expanded leaves

Samples need to be rinsed and dried before being shipped or dropped off to the UConn Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory (SNAL). Instructions for sampling and submission forms can be found here at the SNAL website: https://soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu/analysis/ I can assist with this process if you are unsure; please reach out.

Apples:

The summer rots are here and in full effect. Below are some photos of samples collected from around the state.

Bitter Rot (Top photo) – Symptoms show up in first in late July. Sunken, brown lesions appear on the sun-exposed side of fruit first. To accurately identify this disease, cut through the center of the brown lesion, the browned flesh below the lesion should have a characteristic V-shape. The most important cultural control is to remove diseased branches, shoots, and fruit from your orchard. These will serve as inoculum for future infections. For more information on this disease and to view your control options please visit the New England Guide.

Black Rot (Bottom photo) – Lesions created by this disease tend to occur on the calyx end of the fruit. However, infections can occur at any wound on the fruit, certainly those created by insect pest feeding or egg deposition. This disease also tends to have only one lesion or infected spot per fruit, whereas Bitter Rot could have multiple lesions per fruit. Like Bitter Rot, the best management practice is to remove sources of inoculum and to prevent reinfection. More information on control measures can be found in the New England Guide.

Photos: M. Fenton

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug – Trap captures remain fairly low. None of our traps have reached threshold. However, we are catching an abnormally large number of BMSB nymphs. This tells me that the population is high and adults captures will likely increase in the coming weeks. We will keep you updated. For more information on monitoring this pest check out this video. Control options can be found in the New England Guide.

Japanese Beetles – These troublesome generalists are out. I've noticed them at my home and I'm sure many of you have as well. Although smaller populations can be managed by physically removing them fromm plants and depositing them in a bucket of soapy water, some of you may want to consider other management options. Below are some materials labeled for Japanese Beetles on Blueberries and Brambles.

Blueberries:

IRAC	
4A	Actara, 3-4 oz (3)
4A	Admire Pro, 2.1-2.8 oz (3)
28	Altacor, 3-4.5 oz (1)
3	*Asana XL, 4.8-9.6 oz (14)
4A	Assail 30 SG, 4.5-5.3 oz (1)
UN	Aza-Direct, 1-3.5 pts (0)
3	*Danitol 2.4EC, 10.6 oz (3)
3A	*Hero, 6.4-10.3 oz (1)
1B	Imidan 70W, 1.3 lbs (3)
UN	Molt-X, 8-10 oz (0)
N/A	NemaShield HB, 1 billion nematodes (0)
4A	Platinum 75SG, 1.66-4.01 oz (75)
1A	Sevin XLR Plus, 1-2 qt (7)
	Surround WP, 25-50 lb (0)
3A	Tersus, 4.5-16.35 fl (0)
28	Verdepryn 100SL, 8.2-11 fl. oz. (1)

Brambles:

IRAC	
4A	Actara 25WDG, 3 oz (3)
28	Altacor, 4.5 oz (1)
4A	Assail 30SG, 4.5-5.3 oz (1)
1B	Malathion 57EC, 3 pt (1)
1A	Sevin XLR Plus, 1-2 qt (7)
UN	Aza-Direct, 1-3.5 pt (0)
	NemaShield HB, 1 billion (0)
3	PyGanic EC, 4.5-18 oz (0)
	Surround WP, 20-50 lb (0)
