Integrated Pest Management Program
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

Fruit Update – 6/16/26

Evan Lentz – Assistant Extension Educator

Summer Scab Management

Secondary Scab is here for those that were not able to make it through the primary season completely free and clear. Coverage will need to be maintained for the rest of the season. Below are some materials to consider, taken from the New England Management Guide.

FRAC	Product	Rate / Acre	REI-hours	PHI-days	Efficacy	Comments
M3	Manzate Pro-Stick	3 lb.	24	77	High	DO NOT apply more than 21 lb/A per year. Do not apply to cultivars that will be harvested in 77 days or less.
M3	Penncozeb 75 DF	3.2 lb.	24	77	High	DO NOT apply more than 22.4 lb/A per year. Do not apply to cultivars that will be harvested in 77 days or less.
M3	Dithane F-45 Rainshield	2.4 qt.	24	77	High	DO NOT apply more than 16.8 qt/A per year. Do not apply to cultivars that will be harvested in 77 days or less.
M3	Polyram 80 DF	3 lb.	24	77	High	DO NOT apply more than 21 lb/A per year. Do not apply to cultivars that will be harvested in 77 days or less.
M4	Captan 80WDG	5 lb.	24	0	High	DO NOT apply captan within 10 days of oil. DO NOT apply more than 40 lb./A of Captan 80WDG per year.
M4	Captan 50WP	8 lb.	24	0	High	DO NOT apply captan within 10 days of oil. DO NOT apply more than 64 lb./A of Captan 50WP per year.
M4	Captan 4L	4 qt.	24	0	High	DO NOT apply captan within 10 days of oil. DO NOT apply more than 32 qt./A of Captan 4L per year.
3	Indar 2F	8 fl. oz.	12	14	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 32 fl. oz./A or 4 sprays per year.
3	Rally 40WSP	10 oz.	24	14	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 5 lb./A per year.
3	Rhyme	6.5 fl. oz.	12	14	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 26 fl. oz./A or 4 sprays per year.
3	Cevya	3-5 fl. oz.	12	0		*RM DO NOT apply more than 15 fl. oz./A per year.

FRAC	Product	Rate / Acre	REI-hours	PHI-days	Efficacy	Comments
11	Flint Extra	2.9 fl. oz.	12	14	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 10.5 fl. oz./A per year, or more than 4 applications of any Group 11 fungicide per year.
11	Flint	2.5 oz.	12	14	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 11 oz./A per year, or more than 4 applications of any Group 11 fungicide per year.
11	Sovran	6.4 oz.	12	30	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 25.6 oz./A per year, or more than 4 applications of any Group 11 fungicide per year.
3 + 9	Inspire Super	12 fl. oz.	12	14	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 60 fl. oz./A per year.
7 + 11	Luna Sensation	5.8 fl oz	12	14	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 21 fl. oz./A per year, or more than 4 applications of any Group 11 fungicide per year.
7 + 11	Merivon	5.5 fl. oz.	12	0	High	*RM DO NOT apply more than 22 fl. oz./A per season,or more than 4 applications of any Group 11 fungicide per year.
7 + 11	Pristine	18.5 oz	12	0	Moderate	*RM DO NOT apply more than 74 oz./A per season,or more than 4 applications of any Group 11 fungicide per year.
7	Miravis	3.4 fl oz	12	30	High	*RM Do not apply more than 13.6 fl oz /year

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Anthracnose in Strawberries

Anthracnose fruit rot in strawberries causes sunken lesions on fruit, compromising marketability. Overly wet springs favor the severity of this disease. Management can be difficult and relies on utilizing clean plant material, retaining straw mulch between rows, and avoiding overhead irrigation. Otherwise, fungicides can assist in reducing infection. Cabrio, Luna Sensation, and Pristine are all rated as highly effective. Please see the New England Management Guide for rates.

Fireblight

I'm not hearing many reports of Fireblight out there. Below are some recommendations for summer management for those who have noticed infections.

Copper (protectant and organic only) – can cause fruit russet. Only use if you're concerned about losing trees to the disease. Apply on a sunny, dry day. This will only protect against the bacteria already on the plant's surface. As the plant grows, new tissue will not be protected. Repeat applications at a low rate will be needed until terminal bud set.

Pruning – remove strikes/blighted branches promptly on a cool, dry day. Prune into last season's growth (at least 12" into healthy tissue. For younger trees, if 12" is into the main scaffold of the tree → remove and replant.

Rescue Program – apply PhCa (Apogee) 6-12 oz/100 gal, wait 5 days, and prune every two weeks until terminal bud set.

Grape Bloom and Disease Management

Grapes are blooming around the state. This means that it is time to get your **tissue samples** collected and submitted to the lab. Please let me know if you need help with this. I'd be happy to share the protocol and instructions for sampling and submitting. Otherwise, tissue samples can be collected later, at verasion.

From pre-bloom through fruit set, grapes are highly susceptible to **Powdery Mildew** infection. High relative humidity (>60%) and warm temperatures (63-96 F) favor infection, more so for those of you who had the same issue last year. **Abound/Azaka**, Aprovia, Cevya, **Elite/Tebuzole/Toledo**, Endura, Fervent, **Flint**, **Inspire Super**, Kenja, LifeGuard, **Luna Experience**, Luna Sensation, **Mettle**, **Orius**, **Pristine**, Procure/Viticure, Prolivo, **Quadris Top**, Quintec, **Rally**, **Revus Top**, **Rhyme**, **Sovran**, **Topguard**, Topsin M, Torino, Viathon, Vintage, and Vivando are all rated as very effective. More information on rates can be found here in the New England Management Guide.

Temperature (˚F)	Minimum leaf wetness duration for light infection (hr)
50	24
55	12
60	9
65	8
70	7
75	7
80	6
85	9
90	12

Additionally, this is a critical time for **Black Rot** management (pre=bloom through post-bloom). Black Rot spores are released continuously through the spring and summer. Duration of leaf wetness and temperature are the driving factors of infection with the 70-80-degree range leading to

the quickest infections (see table). **Abound/Azaka**, Dithane/Manzate/Penncozeb, **Elite/Tebuzole/Toledo**, Ferbam, **Flint**, **Inspire Super**, **Luna Experience**, **Mettle 125ME**, **Orius**, **Pristine**, **Quadris Top**, **Rally**, **Revus Top**, **Rhyme**, **Sovran**, **Topguard**, and Ziram are all rated as highly effective. More information on rates can be found here in the New England Management Guide.

Materials rated highly effective against **both** Powdery Mildew and Black Rot are **bolded** above.

Spotted Wing Drosophila

SWD are out there. They are still in fewer numbers than what we know as "typical". Remember, the threshold for this pest is only 1 per trap and populations swell quickly. Frequent and repeated insecticide applications from ripening through harvest are the most effective means of control. Other practices include keeping up on the picking (although difficult for PYO) and judicious pruning. Materials should be chosen based on efficacy and pre-harvest interval. Rotation is key to minimize the likelihood of developing resistance. This is the last thing we need. For information of materials and rates, please consult the New England Small Fruit Management Guide.

Regional EPN Demonstration Project – FREE Nematodes! Distribution Begins Next Week, and We Need More Growers! – *From our UMass Fruit Team*

If you are reading this for the first time, this project provides growers with a free package of 500 million entomopathogenic nematodes (EPNs) for application against plum curculio (PC) larvae and pupae in the soil, particularly beneath perimeter-row trees adjacent to wooded areas and in orchard hotspots with a history of PC damage. The species being distributed, Steinernema carpocapsae, is a naturally occurring beneficial nematode that infects and kills soil-dwelling insect pests.

This demonstration effort is supported by grant funding and is intended to increase grower familiarity with EPNs as a biological control tool. If you are interested in receiving a free package of 500 million EPNs, please let me know by email as soon as possible. email: jpinero@umass.edu

The EPNs arrived earlier than expected. We are currently storing them under refrigeration, but because they have a limited shelf life, they will need to be distributed next week and applied no later than approximately June 25. This means we will need to coordinate deliveries with each participant very soon.

One concern is that no rainfall is currently forecast (for Belchertown, MA), over the next 10 days. As a result, it will be especially important to follow the application guidelines (tap the button below), particularly those related to soil moisture. Ideally, applications should be

made shortly after rainfall. Otherwise, irrigation before and/or after application will be critical to maximize nematode survival and effectiveness.

In addition to the EPNs, each participant will receive a simple demonstration kit that will allow you to observe how EPNs infect and kill insects. We will use wax moth larvae for this purpose and will provide easy-to-follow instructions.

As a reminder, this is not a formal research trial. Rather, it is a regional demonstration project designed to increase grower awareness, understanding, and practical use of EPNs in orchard systems. We hope this effort will help move EPN adoption and understanding to the next level in the Northeast.

We look forward to working with you on this project and hearing about your experiences with EPN applications this season.

Best regards,

Jaime Piñero, Jeremy Delisle, and Soonhong Min

More Information HERE.

Upcoming Event:

2026 Massachusetts Fruit Growers Association Annual Summer Meeting

July 15, 2026 9:30 - 2:30

UMass Cold Spring Research and Education Orchard

391 Sabin St, Belchertown, MA

More details will be announced soon, until then, please be sure to RSVP!

RSVP HERE
