

CT Extension Field Report: 2014

Fireblight has been widespread in the state with farms showing a few strikes to farms where trees have been lost – both young and older trees.

SWD started later than 2013 and exploded in mid-August. Most farms seemed to be able to manage it this year.

Very dry summer conditions resulted in nutrient deficiency symptoms showing up – potassium, calcium, magnesium. Particularly a problem in blocks not irrigated.

BMSB is now considered an agricultural pest in CT. Trapping was conducted at 6 sites. Fruit damage was noted at 4 of the sites from late season feeding. Trap captures were low until late August-early September where they went from 2 adults to 269 adults in one week in a single trap. The nymph count the same week went from 17 to 41. The four sites with high trap counts and noticeable damage applied insecticides and knocked the populations down. One site with high trap counts is a PYO site and opted not to spray for BMSB. One site indicated losing the Cameo crop the previous 2 years to stinkbug. Trapping was conducted at that site and the problem was boron deficiency, not stink bug or other insect related.