

2017 New Jersey Fruit IPM Report

79th Annual New England, New York and Canadian
Fruit Pest Management Workshop, 2017

Win Cowgill, Megan Muelbauer, Dean Polk

Weather in New Jersey was a challenge as it has been for the last several years. It made chemical thinning and apple disease control difficult this spring. This report focus's on northern New Jersey.

Horticulture

Thinning- we have been advocating split multiple applications of PGRs for chemical thinning for the past several years, the 'nibble' approach, starting at bloom. This season every grower in NJ, NY and PA had a hard time with weather conditions at at least one timing, sometimes multiple. Across the board growers that began applications at bloom and got a Petal Fall spray on had better thinning results over all and less hand thinning to do than growers that waited for 'good' weather.

Some hail occurred in multiple storms through out the season, but over all growers had an excellent crop.



Ambrosia Beetle- was found for the first time in the trunks of 3 year old stressed Crimson Crisp apple trees on B9 rootstock in Northern New Jersey.

SWD-We were concerned in North Jersey this season for the possibility of SWD in mature peaches on the tree. The concern was multiple reasons. Growers in our on-farm Rutgers IPM scouting program up until August 10, had been guided not to apply insecticide to peaches. Most growers use OFM mating disruption and Japanese beetle populations were low. In addition we had much lower BMSB populations, in fact most growers never made an application for BSMD in northern NJ. In total, many growers had not

applied insecticide for 4-6 weeks. Our northern NJ growers primarily market fruit as PYO or retail, and thus leave the fruit hanging much longer on the tree so that its far closer to 'tree ripe'.

We had 1 report from a farm in North Jersey, on pentau peaches (donut). We found adult SWD on the fruit hanging on the tree, but when fruit was harvested and put in rearing cages no SWD emerged.

Several weeks later on Sept 1, tree ripe Encore fruit were on sampled and placed in emergence cages. They remained a full 14 days. Many SWD females and males emerged. Up until this year we were not concerned with SWD on peaches still on trees and had never observed SWD on peaches in NJ.

Our feeling is that we still not concerned in traditionally sprayed orchards.

However, growers were then advised to have an insecticide for SWD on peaches the last 2 weeks before harvest.

We feel that this tells us is that if we get back to a true IPM program for peaches, we have to monitor and treat for SWD, at least for fruit that is intended for table-ripe markets. We have to look at this as a whole farm practice in that we have to allow for management options if the grower also produces other SWD host crops like blueberries, cherries and caneberries. And we have to monitor host plants like Black Cherry, wild grape and honey suckle in adjacent hedgerows.

Photo 2: SWD on Nectarine- photo credit Jon Clements



Photo 3- Over ripe donut peach in North Jersey in PYO block.



Photo 4- Donut Peaches in same block with SWD adults



Photo 5- Black Cherry with ripe fruit directly overtop of the donut peach block



Photo 6- photoshoped to show the cherries over the peaches!!!

