

## 2012 INSECT, DISEASE, AND IPM REPORT

Location: Western New York  
Persons Reporting: Art Agnello, Dave Kain  
Pest Type: Insects and Mites

Having a few weeks of spring-summer weather (March) followed by a normal month of winter-spring weather (April), plus one of the driest seasons on record, not only took its toll on the normal development of tree fruit crops, it also seemed to throw many of the insects' cycles (plus management programs) into the realm of the never-seen-before.

Internal leps seemed to make the most of the unusual season; we had some of the earliest first flights ever seen (OFM as early as April 14 in Western NY, and May 4 for CM), and the prolonged warm temperatures easily promoted a 4th generation OFM flight in more advanced sites like Long Island (especially in peaches), and a 3rd CM generation flight statewide. Damage from these species was notable in high-pressure sites around the state, so growers fortunate enough to have a crop had their work cut out for them keeping it protected from attack. Regrettably, some elected to cut back on the numbers of sprays or blocks treated, so packinghouse reports have been indicating a higher than normal incidence of infested fruits (as much as 10%), with worms of all sizes being detected. Obliquebanded leafroller, on the other hand, seemed not to fare so well; we generally saw a normal (if early) 1st flight, starting at the end of May and finishing by mid-July, and then the 2nd flight never really materialized into anything more than marginal straggling numbers for the remainder of the season. Damage from these caterpillars also seemed to be scarce. Plum curculio probably came and went fairly early in the season, but we truthfully didn't notice much evidence of its activity at the time, and overall fruit damage seemed to be relatively minimal. Other insects showing apparent extra broods this year include **San Jose scale**, with a likely 3rd generation in the Hudson Valley, and **dogwood borer**, which may have had a second flight in western NY.

The hot and dry July-August period was actually fairly similar to 2011; **European red mites** threatened to take off in a few orchards, and **woolly apple aphids** were evident in a few here and there. **Japanese beetles** once again made an appearance, but didn't seem to leave much damage in their wake. **Apple maggot** was almost nowhere to be found for most of the summer, although a few August rains produced a small bump in trap numbers for a short time. Regardless, there were many reports at harvest of fruits with numerous oviposition stings, but with no maggots or trails evident. **Potato leafhoppers** came through in a couple of waves, making the case for control sprays in some younger plantings.

Finally, as an update on **Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB)** and **Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD)**: BMSB traps (with new, more effective lures) were set out in the Hudson Valley this season, and did capture some specimens in agronomic plantings, although feeding damage was not readily seen, at least in tree fruits. Weekly inspections in Finger Lakes-area tree fruits and peripheral weed hosts turned up nothing once again this year. SWD started showing up in low numbers by July in ENY, and early August west of Rochester; there was a sharp increase in trap captures at the end of August, with peaches, brambles and grapes being the favored sites to date.