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- crop production consulting services
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## 2017 western New York apple/pest highlights -

- **Weather** - Near-record cool and wet(about 40" rainfall) 2017 western NY growing season, following on the heels of the near-record hot and dry(< 10" rain) 2016 campaign. 2017 saw some of the largest fruit we've ever grown- while 2016 produced the smallest fruit ever.
- **Pest management program costs** - VERY busy and extremely expensive apple pest management season- 15-20+ sprays total on bearing apples counting weedsprays(generally 2) and PGR sprays(thinning, ReTain, etc.).
- **Apple scab control** - EXTREMELY high 2017 scab and summer disease pressure- but generally excellent commercial scab and SB/FS control. Captoze continues to perform very well in early sprays, as does the captan & Syllit FL tank-mix(1-2 sprays).
- **Fireblight control** - Only moderate fireblight blossom blight pressure- but enough scattered summer blight symptoms due to 13 post-bloom hailstorms ! Rubyfrost(NY2) fireblight control much improved in 2016 & 2017 by integrating SARs(Actigard in bloom, Regalia post-bloom) into the overall fireblight management program. The new Koru variety looks to be almost as fireblight susceptible as Rubyfrost- both varieties are *dramatically* more blight prone than Gala or Gingergold. Many thousands of Koru trees were lost to blight across western NY in 2017.
- **Internal worms(IW)** - While trap counts were generally low, there still were steadily increasing IW control issues in western NY despite 5-7 post-bloom worm sprays. Especially a concern in processing apple blocks(= entire truckloads are rejected by just a single live worm detection).
- **San Jose Scale** - Lower pressure in cool/wet 2017 vs. hot/dry 2016. Esteem performed very well.
- **Mites ?** - What mites ? Ridiculously low Agri-Mek pricing continues to make it pretty challenging for growers to practice good resistance management programs.
- **Potato leafhopper** - Lots of non-bearing/nursery tree stunting where growers weren't right on top of very early PLH control. Minneiska(Sweetango) trees are highly susceptible to serious PLH injury.
- **Black stem borer** - *NEWSFLASH*: Re-planting trees back into BSB-injured wet spots doesn't work very well unless you first fix the soil drainage issues. Too many orchards going into semi-soggy sites...
- **BMSBug ??** - BMSB becoming more commonplace in western NY- but likely wasn't a big issue in 2017 due to cool/wet conditions and VERY late rain-delayed soybean plantings and resulting late soybean field dieback in the fall. Ever-increasing soybean acreage bordering apples in western NY...
- **SWD !!!** - OMG ! WTF ?? We've NEVER EVER seen ANY new pest explode on the scene so suddenly and so forcefully !!! Lots of western NY blueberries, raspberries and cherry crops lost entirely. In processing sour cherries, only Imidan held up very well vs. SWD. How well do SWD traps really work ?
- **Chlorpyrifos future ??** - Lorsban is used very extensively pre-bloom in western NY apples - vs. BSB, SJS, RAA and for woolly aphid suppression. Sivanto as a possible pre-bloom replacement ?

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