

Cranberry

Crop Management Newsletter



University of Wisconsin-Extension

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Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic

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Having an accurate diagnosis for sick plants is critical when trying to remedy the problem or prevent it from happening in the future. Most problems that arise on cranberries are probably due to cultural and environmental factors rather than living organisms. Nevertheless, to narrow down the possible causes, it is often helpful to search for pathogens. For several years I personally conducted disease diagnoses of cranberry, using funds provided through WCB. While I enjoy doing this and learn a lot from it, it is too time-consuming for me to do well and in a timely fashion while getting the rest of my job done. Therefore, I will not be doing routine diagnoses any longer. Fortunately, we have the Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic (PDDC) at UW, under the capable direction of Dr. Brian Hudelson.

If you have samples that you want tested, send them to: Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic; Dept. Plant Pathology; 1630 Linden Dr.; Madison, WI 53706. Do not put my name on the package; if I am not around, then nobody will open the package and your samples will be ignored! During the growing season I stop by the clinic often to check on fruit samples, offer advice, and am available if follow up recommendations are requested by the grower.

The clinic charges a fee for its services, which is usually in the range of \$20-25 per sample, depending on what tests are necessary. However, if you send in a bag of brown uprights from Bed A, Bed B, and Bed C, plus a bag of healthy uprights for comparison, and you want them sampled separately, that would be four samples (\$80-100 total). You will be invoiced after the diagnoses are complete. If you have questions about how much you will be charged, it's a good idea to call the clinic prior to submitting samples. Phone 608-262-2863. Also, the more information you provide in an accompanying letter, the better. It's helpful to know cultivar, bed age, when the problem first showed up, and any other clues that you think would be helpful.

For more information on the clinic, including fee structures and hints on how to prepare samples, see the PDDC web site:

www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/ Your county UW-Extension office can also assist you in sending packages to the clinic.

Van Wychens Receive UW Extension “Friend of the County Agent” Award



Jim and Nodji Van Wychen, cranberry growers from Warrens, Wisconsin were recognized by the Wisconsin Association of Agriculture Agents at their annual banquet as “Friends of the County Agent” for 2010. The Van Wychens were sited for their support of research and education through their involvement on the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association Education Committee and the Wisconsin Cranberry Board.

The couple has also been involved in the Wisconsin Rural Leadership Program, now known as Leadership Wisconsin. Nodji has been a supporter and advisor to local Extension programs through her involvement on the Monroe County

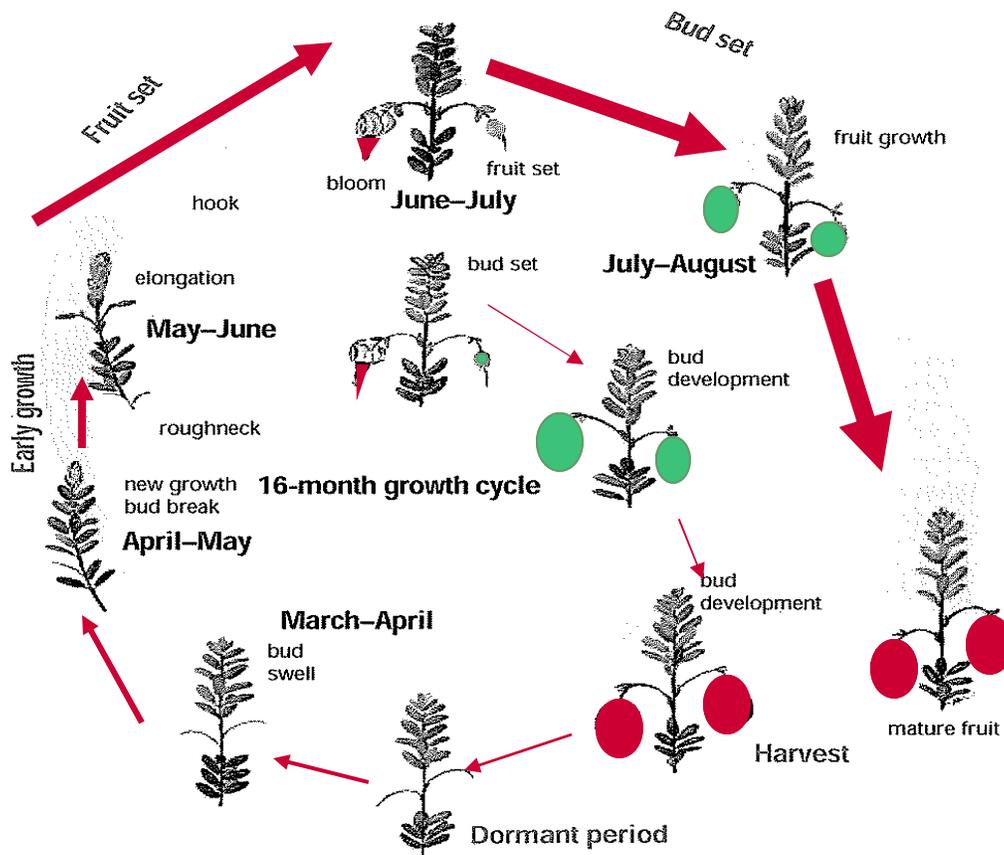
Board and its Extension Education Committee.

The Van Wychens are a model to the community through their support of activities such as the Warrens Cranberry Festival and their commitment to value added production and direct marketing of cranberry products. The Van Wychens host the public at their Wetherby marsh. They promote and educate about cranberries and cranberry products and the impact of their marsh on the environment and community.

***Congratulations to the
Van Wychens on their award!***

Putting it in Perspective...
... Managing a Perennial Crop

Figure 5.—The 16-month cranberry growth and development cycle.



From EM 8741 Nitrogen for Bearing Cranberries in North America.

It is an early spring; new uprights that develop ter the system with the water. Water can also now will later this season carry the buds for modify the pH and thus affect the availability of next years crop. The right balance between many micronutrients. vegetative growth and fruit production is being set right now by our fertility program and efforts to maintain plant health. Not only the amount of nutrient applied but the timing of applications affect the type of vine that develops. Organic matter in the bed, heat unit accumulation and variety of vine all interplay in the process. Unaccounted for nutrients, such as nitrogen may en-

With a perennial crop, the process never really has a beginning or end; but certainly as life comes back into the marsh after winter dormancy, we are starting new—not just for this year but also for the next.

Observations from the Marsh

Jayne Sojka

With growing degree days ahead of the 30-year norm, I expected to see more bud advancement than what I am seeing on the marshes this week (May 3, 2010). We see buds swelling and a little white tint, some of the newer planted beds are showing red nodes of life and one bed I saw today had runner life but understand that it was planted last spring, was sanded and is in the banana belt!

Vines have wintered-over exceptionally well. I see very little bronzing effect from wind burn or exposure showing at this time.

Growers are busy with spring pruning, mowing, ditch cleaning, and planting. Herbicides have all been started as grasses have made a strong infestation across Wisconsin. Bog rosemary and leather leaf are in bloom. Clover has emerged and a good number of other weed species are popping up.

We have all of our white grub traps out. I am pleased to share that we have a record number of traps in place and we are expecting awesome catches; so stay tuned to the continuing white grub saga. We understand that we have some HOPE of controlling white grub with a new product by VALLENT called BELAY. Current research has proven its effectiveness. I have growers that are willing to experiment on their own properties this season but keep in mind that this pest has a three-year cycle and we cannot expect total eradication from anything in one year.

As we start to sweep larvae, I want to encourage growers to think about flooding for control this season. Wait until you see economic levels, but be ready with a game plan as it will be early in 2010. We like to see the water over the vines for 24 to 36 hours and then pulled and dry soon thereafter. I am a strong advocate for trying a couple of beds and see just how comfortable you are. Last season I was pleasantly surprised when one of my growers flooded earlier than I would have for Sparganthis fruit worm and he GOT CONTROL. That flood pulled them out of their winter hideaway and we did not have to do any other control measure until Cranberry Fruit worm hatched in July. He flooded for frost protection 3 to 4 days before I would have flooded for Sparg control. The beauty of flooding is that it is not selective. It will control spanworm, loppers, BHF, Spar, cutworm and some adult June beetles (white grub). I have never seen larvae resistant to water!!!!!! Believe me, I have looked for little scuba gear or snorkels on those larvae!

Here is hoping we all have a wonderful growing season.

Jayne Sojka is an independent IPM crop consultant with Lady Bug IPM, LLC

References to products in this publication are for your convenience and are not an endorsement of one product over similar products. You are responsible for using pesticides according to the manufacturer's current label directions. Follow directions exactly to protect the environment and people from pesticide exposure. Failure to do so violates the law.

Announcements

“Dreams come true. Without that possibility, nature would not incite us to have them.”

—John Updike

Welcome to the first issue of the 2010 Cranberry Crop Management Newsletter! This newsletter is produced by UW-Extension and is sponsored by a grant from the **Wisconsin Cranberry Board, Inc.** with further support from industry partners; **Ocean Spray Cranberries Inc., Clement Pappas & Co., Cliffstar Corporation** and **Decas Cranberry Sales, Inc.** Ten issues will be produced during the growing season and are available to anyone in the cranberry industry upon request either by US mail or by e-mail. Please contact Matt Lippert, Wood County UW-Extension (see contact information in the article below) if you would like to be added to our distribution lists.

Self-Study Private Pesticide Applicator Certification

There is an option to obtain certification for Private Pest Applicators that is available year around to fit whenever it suits your schedule. It is called the Self-Study option. The UW-Extension Office can provide you with a DVD to view the same presentations as are provided at our training session held each year at cranberry school. You are required to purchase a Fruit Crops Manual (\$30) then and schedule an appointment to take your exam at the UW-Extension Office. Contact

Wood Co. UWEX
400 Market St.
PO Box 8095
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
715-421-8440

Matthew.lippert@ces.uwex.edu

The exam is open book and multiple choice, the self-study option requires 70% correct answers as compared to 50% for those attending a pesticide applicator class. Not all counties will have the fruit crops exam, but they will be able to obtain one if you give them advance notice. A PAT certificate is required to purchase or mix or apply restricted use pesticides.



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