

# OrganicA

a resource for organic apple production

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## Orchard Observations

Lorraine P. Berkett

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**Stage of Development:** I walked through the orchards early this morning while it was still cool (in low 40's F) to see where the buds were at before they "took off" with the warmer temperatures we now have. The cultivars ranked as follows:

Orchard 1: Honeycrisp (least developed) at Green Tip (GT) → Macoun (late GT) → Liberty (early Half-Inch Green (HIG) → Ginger Gold (approaching full HIG) → Zestar! (full HIG)



Orchard 1 - Zestar!



Orchard 1 - Ginger Gold

Orchard 2: Bud development was about the same as in Orchard 1 but it appeared that the Zestar! buds may be a little behind the Ginger Gold buds.

**Apple Scab** -- we did not have an infection period this week in the orchards. As you know, the scab risk will increase quickly with more green tissue and with warmer weather which will speed-up ascospore maturation. Based on the degree days that have accumulated so far since Green Tip, it is estimated that approximately 3% of the ascospores have matured and ready to be released with the next rain at this site.

**Insect Activity** -- As I walked through the orchards this morning, the only insects I observed were these aphids on this Ginger Gold bud (see picture). So far, we have only captured 3 Tarnished Plant Bugs on all the traps that we have hung. However, with warmer temperatures this will change.



Aphids on Ginger Gold bud

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**IMPORTANT:** It is the grower's responsibility to ensure that any crop production practice or material used in the orchard is acceptable in their particular state's organic certification program. Some materials deemed organically acceptable on the National List may not be acceptable in some states. Contact your [federally accredited certifying agency](#) to know what is acceptable and to ensure compliance with regulations in your state.

Where trade names or commercial products are used for identification, no discrimination is intended and no endorsement is implied. Always read the label before using any pesticide. **The label is the legal document for the product use. Disregard any information in this document if it is in conflict with the label.**

**We Value Your Input and Want to Address Your Needs**

Please send your comments and suggestions to [lorraine.berkett@uvm.edu](mailto:lorraine.berkett@uvm.edu)

**For more information on the OrganicA Project please see:**

<http://www.uvm.edu/organica/>

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