

**Orchard Observations**  
**Lorraine P. Berkett**  
**June 18, 2009**

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**Announcement of a NOFA-VT and OrganicA Project  
Co-Sponsored Upcoming Event**

**August 13, 2009  
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

**University of Vermont Horticulture Farm  
South Burlington, VT**

**“What We have Learned about Organic Apple Production”**

**Presentations and Orchard Tour**

Details are at: [http://www.nofavt.org/upcoming-event-details.php?e\\_id=1819](http://www.nofavt.org/upcoming-event-details.php?e_id=1819)  
[Cost: \$10 for NOFA members, \$15 for nonmembers]

***Hope to see you there !***

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Relatively speaking, things were a little calmer in the orchards this week. Morgan Cromwell removed high grass from the base of the tree trunks in Orchard 2. It is not a good idea to have thick, high growth around the base of trees; this situation is often associated with getting borer problems.



Removing high grass around base of trees.

On Tuesday morning I walked through the non-managed orchard at the Hort. Farm to see what the potential for problems were. It was good that we had applied kaolin last week since **Plum Curculio** were still active; there were some relatively recent PC damage on non-managed Liberty trees.



Plum Curculio injury.

As I mentioned last week, we have observed very few scab lesions in the organic apple orchards. This is in stark contrast to the level of scab that is in non-managed McIntosh trees on the farm. The following pictures were taken Tuesday morning. The non-managed McIntosh trees were polluted with scab....



Scab lesions forming almost a “sheet” of scab on both leaves. The scab on the leaf on the right is younger but will be as bad as the leaf on the left in a few days.



Scab on non-managed McIntosh fruit.

**New Postings on OrganicA website:** The following two summaries are of research conducted by Morgan Cromwell for her Masters degree.

- [An Evaluation of Alternative Fungicides for Organic Apple Scab Management](#)

- [A Preliminary Evaluation of Raw Milk as a Fungicide for Apple Scab Management in Vermont](#)

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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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USDA Integrated Organic Program**