

 rchard  bservations
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June 30, 2008

Sooty Blotch and Fly Speck - At 270 hours of leaf wetness from Petal Fall, it is expected that fly speck inoculum will be available from non-managed, alternate host plants around the orchard perimeter. As of this morning, we had accumulated 231 hours of leaf wetness. Fortunately, we have good air circulation through both Orchard 1 and 2 and do not plan to apply anything specifically for these diseases when we reach the threshold. Dr. David Rosenberger of Cornell University reported the following in the March 24, 2008 issue of SCAFFOLDS: “Sooty blotch and flyspeck can be controlled by using low rates of LLS during summer. In trials in the Hudson Valley, we found that LLS applied at 1 qt/100 gal of dilute spray was very effective when applied on a 10-day schedule during July and August, whereas 2 qt/100 gal were required for good control on a 20-day schedule. In regions where conditions favor development of flyspeck and sooty blotch, sprays with LLS must be continued into late September to prevent disease on late maturing cultivars.” (Dr. Rosenberger’s article on disease options in organic production is at:

<http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/scaffolds/2008/080324.pdf>)

Apple Maggot Flies (AMF) - AMF are active ! We had placed baited Apple Maggot Fly traps in the various orchards at the HRC last Tuesday and when we checked them this morning, we discovered AMF on the traps in the non-managed orchard. On average, we caught 8.75 per trap, with a high of 13 AMF on one trap. We did not trap any in Orchard 1 or 2 so no management action will be taken this week in these orchards.



Apple Maggot Fly (with distinctive pattern on wings) in center of picture on sticky trap.

Obliquebanded Leafroller (OBLR) DD Update - As of June 28, we had accumulated 288 DD from the biofix of June 16, when we started trapping moths in pheromone traps. It is predicted that OBLR eggs hatch when 360 DD (base 43F) have accumulated from the biofix (date of first sustained trap capture). As mentioned in previous issues, in orchards at high risk of damage, it is suggested that the insect be managed at that time since the larvae are very vulnerable; in lower risk blocks, the optimal time to begin to scout for second generation OBLR is about 600 DD (base 43F) after the biofix.

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 newsletter if it is in conflict with the label or organic certification.**

We Value Your Input and Want to Address Your Needs

Please send your comments and suggestions to lorraine.berkett@uvm.edu

For more information on the OrganicA Project please see:

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

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