

OrganicA

a resource for organic apple production

Orchard Observations

Lorraine P. Berkett
August 29, 2008

Well, the growing season is wrapping up. We have started to harvest the apples in both organic apple orchards. After all of my complaining about the rain, I must say the weather has been just beautiful for the harvest !! So far, we have harvested the Ginger Gold and Zestar! fruit and will harvest the remaining cultivars during the coming weeks in September. Also, over the next few weeks we will be doing a “pack-out” evaluation of the crop and begin to summarize our results and reflect on what we have learned this past growing season. It has been an interesting and exciting year !

This will be the last in the series of “Orchard Observations” for 2008. I have enjoyed sharing what I have seen in the orchards with you -- I hope the ‘Observations’ have been of some value to you. At some point over the next few months, we will be sending out a survey to ask for your comments and suggestions as we plan for 2009. Hopefully, this project will continue in 2009 we will be submitting a proposal to the USDA Integrated Organic Program this autumn for a renewal of our grant to allow us to continue the project into the full production phase of the organic orchards. We truly, truly hope we will receive funds to continue the project.

Over the autumn and winter we will forward to you announcements of meetings or new postings to the OrganicA website and keep you updated on the status of the OrganicA Project.

Wishing everyone a great harvest !

Best regards,

Lorraine



Terry Bradshaw and Ben Crockett begin the 2008 harvest

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/>

**The OrganicA Project is being funded by a grant from the
USDA Integrated Organic Program**