



Spotted Wing Drosophila Update, June 2020

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SWD has been caught early this year in traps in our region. Here is the map of SWD catches in NY along Vermont's border:

<https://fruit.cornell.edu/spottedwing/distribution/>

Key SWD Management Tactics:

Reduce habitat for SWD: by mowing around the crop, controlling weeds, and pruning to keep the crop canopy open. SWD prefers cool, moist, shady locations.

Sanitation: keep area free of overripe fruit by harvesting frequently and thoroughly to reduce habitat for build up; collect cull fruit or fruit fallen to the ground; eliminate wild hosts as much as possible.

Exclude SWD: with fine netting applied prior to fruit ripening, seal all edges well. Suppliers include:

<https://www.berryprotectionsolutions.com/>

https://duboisag.com/us_en/filet-d-exclusion-anti-insectes-proteknet-tricote.html

Monitor SWD population with traps: Use commercially available traps and lures, made by Trece or Scentry. Great Lake IPM is one supplier:

https://www.greatlakesipm.com/product_search/?q=swd

Or, make your own with apple cider vinegar and yeast. See:

<https://extension.unh.edu/resource/monitoring-spotted-wing-drosophila-swd-traps>

Monitor for SWD presence in ripe fruit: use salt flotation during harvest. This is especially important if you are planning a low- to no-spray approach to managing SWD, so that you know when fruit is infested, see:

<https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/0/7265/files/2017/01/SaltFloatation-2kmt284.pdf>

Refrigerate harvested fruit: as soon as possible, to slow down any existing larval development.

Use short residual pesticides (conventional or organic): make frequent, thorough applications, use materials with short harvest intervals, rotate materials from among different mode-of-action groups (IRAC) to avoid the development of resistance in SWD populations. Here is the 2020 list of available materials for berry crops compiled by UConn:

<http://ipm.uconn.edu/documents/raw2/1705/2020%20SWD%20Insecticides%20for%20Small%20Fruit.pdf>

Additional information resources are linked at: <https://www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/SWDInfo.html>