

Kentucky Fruit Facts

September-October 2022

<http://www.uky.edu/hort/documents-list-fruit-facts>



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Daniel Becker, Editor
Christy Cassady, Newsletter Designer



Cooperative Extension Service
University of Kentucky
Horticulture Department
N-318 Ag. Science Ctr. No.
Lexington KY 40546-0091

Inside this Issue:

Fruit Crop News	1
Upcoming Meetings	2
Blackberry Field Day	3
Strawberry Chat Podcast	3
Apple Scout Website	3
Chlorpyrifos Survey	4
USDA Food Safety Assistance	4
Peach, Nectarine Cultivars	5
On-farm Irrigation Projects	6

Note: We have ceased publishing Fruit Facts as a hard copy or mailed newsletter. If you would like to continue receiving Fruit Facts, please sign up for email delivery as described at the end of this newsletter or contact your County Extension Office to have them print a copy for you.

Fruit Crop News

By Daniel Becker, UK Extension Associate

With September comes the main season for apple harvest. Picking of ‘Jonagold’ should begin in about a week to ten days, with ‘Golden Delicious’ coming in a week later. Besides a few hot days during the last week of August, highs have been mostly in the 80’s with 60’s and 70’s overnight. As a result, color is developing nicely. Most years I expect even red strains of ‘Gala’ and ‘Jonagold’ to be mostly yellow until at harvest. ‘Fuji’ for us is normally grass-green even in October but on a recent walk-through I noticed that many fruits have developed a red blush on the sun exposed side (see masthead).

Bitter rot and summer fruit rots are a recurrent problem for many growers in Kentucky (<https://plantpathology.ca.uky.edu/files/ppfs-fr-t-24.pdf>). One of the keys to controlling these diseases, besides starting preven-

tative sprays soon after petal fall, is sanitation. While scouting I always look for cankers, diseased limbs, and rotting wood. If these sources of inoculum cannot be taken out immediately, I flag them and come back during pruning with a saw and squirt bottle of alcohol handy. Trees with rotting on the trunk are best taken out, don’t leave them for the yield as they are doing more harm than good. Do your best to collect and dispose of rotting fruit and mummies after harvest. If collecting is too much labor, think about mowing the drops and maybe even spraying a low rate of nitrogen to the orchard floor to assist decomposition.

Peach harvest is winding down, though, there might be a few ‘Lauro’ and ‘Victoria’ still hanging. I have heard from many growers that prices and demand for peaches were good this season, especially in the July-August window. Keep an eye out for premature yellowing and dropping of leaves on your peaches, especially if there are cherry trees nearby (Figure 1). Cherry



Figure 1. Early leaf yellowing and drop caused by cherry leaf spot. (Photo: Daniel Becker, UK)

Cooperative Extension Service
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.
LEXINGTON, KY 40546



Disabilities
accommodated
with prior notification.

leaf spot (*Blumeriella jaopi*) is differentiated from bacterial spot by the reddish coloration of the spots and scattered placement (Figure 2). Bacterial spot (*Xanthomonas*) will be concentrated on the tips, more black, and include water soaking around the lesions (N. Gauthier, personal communication, September 6, 2022). For us, leaf drop was enough to warrant post-harvest sprays on 'Redhaven', which was one of the cultivars most affected.



Figure 2. Cherry leaf spot on 'Redhaven' peach leaves. (Photo: Daniel Becker, UK)

This time of year, I sometimes get questions about weed control options for plasticulture strawberries. Some of my go-to sources of reference include ID-232 (<https://plantpathology.ca.uky.edu/files/id-232.pdf>), NC State Extension (<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/weed-control-options-for-strawberries-on-plastic>), and of course, the label. Since it is less than 30 days to transplanting, napromide (trade name Devrinol 2-XT) is the only pre-plant option available. In fields where nutsedge is a problem growers may want to plan ahead for next year and use a herbicide labeled for strawberry with the a.i. flumioxazin as it may provide some minor suppression before laying plastic. Starting with good quality transplants and encouraging rapid establishment and leaf growth is a good tactic to help with weed control in the planting holes.

Due to the floods and damage at RCARS, the Fall Field Day scheduled for October 1st, 2022, will be cancelled. Other programs during the week such as the Youth Science Day and Pumpkin Days will still take place but in a modified form.

Upcoming Meetings

All times EDT unless noted

Sept. 14. Pheromones and beneficial nematodes and the effect on peaches. This is a free webinar that will discuss research on nematodes used to parasitize and kill insects which spend part or all of their lifecycle in the soil. The webinar will begin at 2:00 pm. To register, visit [Webinar: What can entomopathogenic nematodes do for soil health? \(biomemakers.com\)](https://www.biomemakers.com/webinar-what-can-entomopathogenic-nematodes-do-for-soil-health/).

Sept. 15. Third Thursday Thing – National Pawpaw Day Celebration, at 10:00 am. Hosted by the Kentucky State University in-person at the Harold R. Benson Research & Demonstration Farm, 1525 Mills Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601 or online at <https://www.youtube.com/kysuag/live>.

Sept. 23. North Carolina Commercial Blackberry and Raspberry Growers Association Field Day. The field day will be held at Double B Farms, 6890 Hull Road, Cherryville NC 28021 from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. Register by Sept. 16 at [NC Commercial Blackberry and Raspberry Growers Association 2022 Field Day Tickets, Fri, Sep 23, 2022 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nc-commercial-blackberry-and-raspberry-growers-association-2022-field-day-tickets-fri-sep-23-2022-at-9-00-am-eventbrite). Cost to attend is \$20 for non-association members.

Oct. 5-7. US Highbush Blueberry Council's Blueberry Summit. Nashville, TN. Schedule TBD. Register at [The Blueberry Summit \(blueberryevents.org\)](https://www.blueberryevents.org/).

Oct. 12. Blackberry Field Day, 10:00 am to 3:30 pm CT (Central Time), registration begins at 9:00 am. A blackberry field day will be held on Wednesday, October 12 at Garrett Farms, 3800 Hardmoney Road, Paducah, KY 42003). Directions: Take exit 11 for KY-1954/Husband Road. If coming from east, turn left to head south on KY-1954/Husband Road; turn right for those coming from the west on I-24. Follow Husband Road for 3.7 miles. Turn left onto KY-348 E and follow for 0.8 miles. The farm store and parking lot will be on the right. Register on Eventbrite: <https://BlackberryTourOct12.eventbrite.com>. For more information see the article immediately following the upcoming meetings section.

Dec. 6-8. Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable & Farm Market Expo. DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI. Registration opens on October 14, but room blocks at conference rates are now available. Rooms at local hotels are likely to fill up quickly, so book early if you plan to attend. Visit <https://glexpo.com/> for more information.

Jan. 3-4, 2023. Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference. Sloan Convention Center, 1021 Wilkinson Trace, Bowling Green, KY 42103. Schedule TBD. Contact Kentucky Horticulture Council, (859) 490-0889, info@kyhortcouncil.org.

Jan. 5-8, 2023. Southeast Regional Fruit & Vegetable Conference. Savannah, GA. Schedule TBD. For more details, visit <https://seregionalconference.org/>.

Jan. 22-24, 2023. North American Raspberry and Blackberry Conference. Tampa, FL. Schedule TBD. For more details, visit <https://www.raspberryblackberry.com/2023-narba-conference/>.

Feb. 16-18, 2023. Pick Tennessee Conference. Franklin, TN. Schedule TBD. For more details, visit <https://www.picktnconference.com/>.



Blackberry Field Day – Wednesday, Oct. 12

By Dr. Cindy Finneseth, Executive Director, Kentucky Horticulture Council

UK College of Ag Department of Horticulture, Kentucky Horticulture Council, and Garrett Farms will be co-hosting a Blackberry Field Day in McCracken County on Wednesday, Oct. 12. Registration begins at 9:00 am with educational program starting at 10:00 am.

The first two tours cover blackberry planting, management practices, and thoughts so far on T-trellis vs RCA trellis training with Danny & Marianna Garrett (Garrett Farms) followed by Blackberry growth habits, pruning and training T-trellis vs. RCA trellis, moving RCA and plant response with Daniel Becker (UK Department of Horticulture).

After the lunch break, Ryan Kuesel (UK Department of Entomology) will be talking about important blackberry insects and their management, emphasis on Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) and Dr. Nicole Gauthier (UK Department of Plant Pathology) will discuss important blackberry diseases and their management. The program will conclude with general food safety tips and how to sample Ag water sources with Dakota Moore (Kentucky Horticulture Council).

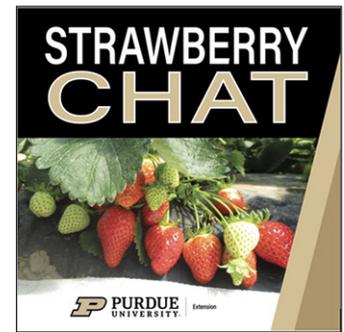
Farm address is: 3800 Hardmoney Road, Paducah, KY 42003

Lunch will be provided for tour participants. Register on Eventbrite: <https://BlackberryTourOct12.eventbrite.com>.

Purdue University Extension’s New Strawberry Chat Podcast

Strawberry Chat (<https://anchor.fm/strawberrychat>) is a virtual discussion about strawberry production at

small and diversified farms in Indiana and neighboring states. Dr. Wenjing Guan and Miranda Purcell from Purdue University are the program’s hosts. The discussions focus on activities that happen at the time of the year and cover different production systems. If you are interested in joining the Strawberry Chat email list and receiving the podcast update, please email us at Wenjing (guan40@purdue.edu) or Miranda (mrpurcel@purdue.edu).



Apple Scout Website

By Kim Leonberger, Plant Pathology Extension Associate, and Nicole Gauthier, Plant Pathology Extension Specialist

The publication *An IPM Scouting Guide for Common Problems of Apple in Kentucky* was first introduced in 2014 as an online/paper version. In order to improve access to this important scouting guide, a mobile website was developed.

The Apple Scout Website (<http://applescout.ca.uky.edu/>) is available for grower, agent, and homeowner use. The website can be easily accessed

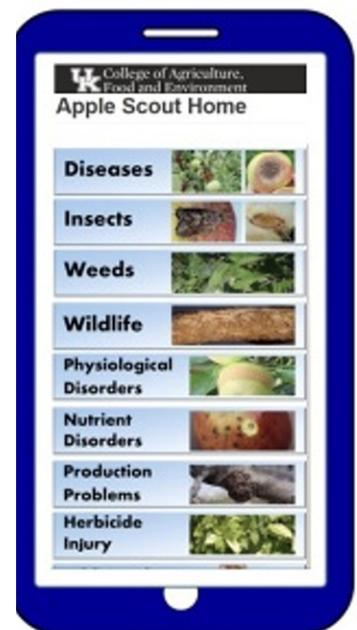


Figure 1. Apple Scout website home page. (Photo: Kim Leonberger, UK)



Figure 2. Users can select a specific disease or pest to obtain more information. (Photo: Kim Leonberger, UK)

from any phone, tablet, iPad, or computer. This website provides users with the information available in the scouting guide publication. The home page (Figure 1) allows visitors to select a major disease topic. Next, users can select from a menu of various diseases or pests to obtain more information and view images (Figure 2).

Chlorpyrifos Inventory Survey

By Dr. Cindy Finneseth, Executive Director, Kentucky Horticulture Council

As you know Chlorpyrifos (CFS) is no longer allowed for pest control on food crops. Chlorpyrifos has been sold under such brand names as Govern, Hatchet, Lorsban, Lorsban Advanced, Vulcan, Warhawk, Whirlwind, and Yuma. Common formulated mixtures that contain chlorpyrifos include: Bolton, Cobalt Advanced, Match-Up, and Stallion. This list is not exhaustive and you may have purchased this product under different names. We are working with KDA to determine how much of these products growers have on-hand to determine our options for a disposal program. If you could complete this quick (<5 minute) anonymous survey by October 1, 2022 to help us assess inventories in Kentucky. You can access the survey by clicking on the link below or scanning the QR code. Thanks!



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Chlorpyrifos2022>

USDA Offers Assistance for Specialty Crop Growers' On-farm Food Safety Costs

From the United States Department of Agriculture

HOLLIS, NEW HAMPSHIRE — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) plans to provide up to \$200 million in assistance for specialty crop producers who incur eligible on-farm food safety program expenses to obtain or renew a food safety certification in calendar years 2022 or 2023. USDA's new Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops (FSCSC) program will help to offset costs for specialty crop producers to comply with regulatory requirements and market-driven food safety certification requirements, which is part of USDA's broader effort to transform the food system to create a more level playing field for small

and medium producers and a more balanced, equitable economy for everyone working in food and agriculture. Specialty crop operations can apply for assistance for eligible expenses related to a 2022 food safety certificate issued on or after June 21, 2022, beginning June 27, 2022. USDA is delivering FSCSC to provide critical assistance for specialty crop operations, with an emphasis on equity in program delivery while building on lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain disruptions. Vilsack made the announcement from Hollis, N.H., where he toured a local, family-owned farm and highlighted USDA's efforts to help reduce costs for farmers and support local economies by providing significant funding to cut regulatory costs and increase market opportunities for farmers in New Hampshire and across the nation.

Program Details

FSCSC will assist specialty crop operations that incurred eligible on-farm food safety certification and related expenses related to obtaining or renewing a food safety certification in calendar years 2022 and 2023. For each year, FSCSC covers a percentage of the specialty crop operation's cost of obtaining or renewing their certification, as well as a portion of their related expenses.

To be eligible for FSCSC, the applicant must be a specialty crop operation; meet the definition of a small business or very small business; and have paid eligible expenses related to the 2022 (issued on or after June 21, 2022) or 2023 certification.

Specialty crop operations may receive assistance for the following costs:

- Developing a food safety plan for first-time food safety certification.
- Maintaining or updating an existing food safety plan.
- Food safety certification.
- Certification upload fees.
- Microbiological testing for products, soil amendments and water.
- Training.

FSCSC payments are calculated separately for each category of eligible costs. A higher payment rate has been set for socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning and veteran farmers and ranchers. Details about the payment rates and limitations can be found at <https://www.farmers.gov/pandemic-assistance/food-safety>.

Applying for Assistance

The FSCSC application period for 2022 is June 27, 2022, through January 31, 2023, and the application period for 2023 will be announced at a later date. FSA will issue payments at the time of application approval for 2022 and after the application period ends for 2023. If calculated payments exceed the amount of available funding, payments will be prorated.

Interested specialty crop producers can apply by completing the FSA-888, Food Safety Certification for Specialty Crops Program (FSCSC) application. The application, along with other required documents, can be submitted to the FSA office at any USDA Service Center nationwide by mail, fax, hand delivery or via electronic means. Producers can visit <https://www.farmers.gov/working-with-us/service-center-locator> to find their local FSA office. Specialty crop producers can also call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee ready to assist.

Peach and Nectarine Cultivars at UKREC, Princeton, KY

By Dwight Wolfe, Research Specialist, UK Research and Education Center, Princeton, KY

Two trees each of ‘Contender’, ‘Redhaven’, and eleven named peach and nectarine cultivars from John

Clark’s breeding program at Clarksville, Arkansas, were planted in November 2015. Deer, birds, raccoons, and other wildlife, plus frost/freezes in years previous to 2021 had prevented us from being able to collect yield data from all trees in this planting during a single season. 2021 was the first year that we had been able to collect yield data from all of these cultivars along with their ripening dates and Brix readings (Table 1).

All nectarine and peach cultivars that had full crops in the 2021 season sustained severally reduced fruit yields in 2022. Poor fruit set due to the cool spring and the spring frosts/freezes early this year contributed to the reduced yield, but biennial bearing was also evident in that a commercial crop was not produced in 2022 by any of the trees in this planting, except for perhaps by one of the two trees of ‘Bowden’ that produced 25 lbs. of fruit. Flavor and eating quality were generally good across all of these cultivars.

Fruit size for the ‘Westbrook’ and ‘Arrington’ nectarines was somewhat better this year than in 2021. These two cultivars are the earliest ones to ripen in our planting, and early and vigorous thinning is apparently required to get good fruit size for these cultivars. Some fruit cracking was observed in ‘Amoore Sweet’ and ‘Bowden.’ This cracking was also observed in 2021 and may have resulted from numerous heavy rains sustained this and last year.

Bird damage was frequently observed. Thirty-

Table 1. 2021 data from the 2015 peach and nectarine planting at UKREC, Princeton, KY.

Cultivars ¹	Date(s) Harvested		Yield/tree (lbs./tree)		Fruit size (g/fruit)		Brix ² (%)		Notes / descriptions ³
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	
Nectarine Cultivars									
Westbrook	15-Jun	13-Jun	48.6	5.5	63	111	13.8	15.2	Semi-CS, M
Arrington	22-Jun	21-Jun	41.4	8.1	65	87	13.8	15.4	CS, NM
Bradley	30-Jun	29-Jun	59.4	6.3	109	115	13.2	14.1	CS, NM
Amoore Sweet	2-Jul	29-Jun	54.6	5.7	146	112	13.6	14.5	C, NM, 37% cracked fruit
Bowden	4-Jul	5-Jul	72.6	13.2	115	108	13	15	CS, NM, 53% cracked fruit
Peach Cultivars									
White Rock	6-Jul	NA	64.2	0	133	NA	11.9	NA	CS, NM, low acid
Redhaven	6-Jul	5-Jul	80.5	1.8	161	133	11	13.8	FS, M
Souvenir	8-Jul	5-Jul	73.5	4.7	106	131	11.2	13.7	FS, M low acid
White Cloud	7-Jul	29-Jun	137.3	2.2	165	200	10.4	14.1	CS, NM
Contender	16-Jul	NA	92	0	154	NA	10.5	NA	FS, M
White County	16-Jul	14-Jul	122.3	11.2	138	165	10.2	14	FS, M, low acid
White River	23-Jul	NA	117.3	0	172	NA	10.4	NA	FS, M
White Diamond	28-Jul	NA	124.5	0	189	NA	11.1	NA	FS, M, low acid

¹ Amoore Sweet, Contender, and White River, only have one of their original two trees still alive.

² Average of a ten-fruit sample in 2021 and a three-fruit sample per tree in 2022, 2 sides per fruit.

³ CS, FS, M, NM indicate clingstone, freestone, melting, and non-melting flesh, respectively.

seven percent of the 63 peaches harvested from the two ‘White County’ trees had bird pecks. The few fruit at the beginning of the 2022 season that was on most of the trees with no yield were destroyed/removed by wildlife long before they had a chance to get to maturity.

On-Farm Irrigation or Water Management Projects

Are you considering a new irrigation system or another water related project or upgrade on your farm? The Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund (KADF) offers an On-Farm Water Program to help KY growers with water projects. The program has cost-share funds to incentivize better water management practices. Projects can include irrigation infrastructure, micro-irrigation systems, high tunnel gutters and catchment systems, and many more strategies to help you manage water for your produce crops.

Program guidelines for Producer Implemented Projects (Section IV beginning on pg. 6) can be found online: https://www.kyagr.com/agpolicy/documents/2022-Program-Guidelines-Applications/ADF_APP_project-guidelines_water.pdf. The final deadline for funding this year is December 16, 2022.

Receiving Fruit Facts on the Internet

By subscribing to the email notification service you will receive an email announcement when each new issue is posted on the web with a link.

To subscribe, send an email message:

TO: listserv@lsv.uky.edu
SUBJECT: Fruit Facts
MESSAGE: subscribe KY-FRUITFACTS
Followed by a blank line

OR to unsubscribe, the lines:
signoff KY-FRUITFACTS

Followed by a blank line You should receive confirmation by return email. If you have a problem, or if you wish to communicate with a person about “fruitfacts”, the owner’s address (the TO: line of the message) is: owner-ky-fruit-facts@lsv.uky.edu