

Kentucky Fruit Facts

April/May 2008 (4&5/2008)

Fruit Facts can be found on the web at: <http://www.ca.uky.edu/fruitfacts/>

John Strang, Extension Fruit Specialist, Editor
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Fruit Crop News

We had an excellent orchard tour and meeting at Hillview Farm and Orchard hosted by Paul and Brenda Tokosh in Henry County on April 15th. In addition to viewing the apple orchard we had an opportunity to view and discuss their European and Asian pear, plum, blackberry and asparagus plantings.

The 2008 season has an excellent potential to produce bumper fruit crops. We have essentially had no winter damage. The light frosts on the mornings of April 29, 30, 15, 16 and May 1 where temperatures dropped into the low 30°F's produced little or no frost injury in most fruit plantings. However, some plasticulture strawberries required covering and/or overhead sprinkled for frost protection.

Thinning is an overriding issue for apple, pear and peach growers. Just about every spur on apple and pear trees produced flowers and many apple trees flowered on both on two-year old spurs as well



Paul Tokosh in foreground discussing European and Asian pear differences and market potential. Picture by Steve Moore, Henry County, Ag and Natural Resources Extension Agent

as on one year old wood, which has produced a separation in the floral developmental stages. **Growers will need to thin fruit hard and multiple times to size fruit and get their trees out of the biennial bearing cycle that the 2007 freeze initiated.** This is particularly important on apples as they are very prone to biennial bearing. Pears and peaches are less prone to biennial bearing, but they have very heavy crop loads this season and must be thinned heavily to size fruit and improve sugar content. Many blueberry plants were not pruned adequately this spring and have excessively heavy crops. Consequently many lack sufficient leaf area to mature a quality crop.

In case you haven't noticed... the 17 year periodical cicadas are emerging. They will be found across the state except in the Purchase and most of the Pennyrile areas. Periodical cicadas emerge once the minimum soil temperature at the 4 inch depth reaches 64°F. The males begin singing 4 days after emergence. They may or may not be a problem in your fruit planting depending on the surrounding trees

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as they do not fly more than 100 yards from where they emerge. Populations will be highest where there are old woods close to fruit plantings. Egg laying on woody plant pencil sized shoots begins two weeks after singing. Thus, growers should assess populations and spray if cicadas are congregating on their fruit crops, rather than using a preventative spray. Damage from periodical cicadas is from the egg laying scars and the feeding that occurs on plant roots for the next 17 years. Home fruit growers will use Sevin or pyrethrum sprays for control. Commercial growers will use synthetic pyrethroid materials, on apples and pears (Asana, Baythroid, Capture, Danitol, Decis, Permethrin, Proaxis, Warrior) and on stone fruit (Asana, Baythroid, Permethrin, Proaxis, Warrior), which are restricted use pesticides. All of these insecticides normally cause mite population build up on the crop for this and subsequent years. Commercial apple and pear growers may experience fewer mite problems with the use of Danitol at the high rate. Synthetic pyrethroids work well on peaches since they are less prone to mite buildups. For more information consult ENT/FACT-446, Periodical Cicadas in Kentucky at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/entomology/entfacts/ef446.asp> or pick a copy up at your County Extension Office.

We have noted that blackberries that suffered abnormally from last years drought have significant dieback and often have serious cane blight infections (bleached out areas on the canes). The liquid lime sulfur spray at half inch green was very important this year to help get this disease under control. If the liquid lime sulfur spray was missed, Captan fungicide sprays will be important this season to protect the new primocanes, which will produce the 2009 crop. Apply Captan when the flowers first show white and through harvest. Both the reentry interval and pre-harvest interval for Captan on blackberries are 3 days. Check your product to make sure that blackberries are on the label.

Agricultural Commissioner Richie Farmer has named Mac Stone as executive director of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's marketing office. Mac replaces Michael Judge who has held this position for the last four years. Kristen Branscum from the Kentucky Department of Tourism has been appointed as director of the KDA's Division of Value-Added Plant Production.

Upcoming Meetings

May 17 - Central Kentucky Wine Fest Competition, 417 Stanford Ave., Danville, KY 40422. Contact Andre Brousseau 859-236-1808.

May 22 - Mississippi Valley Peach Orchard Tour, Rendleman Orchards, Alto Pass, IL Contact Elizabeth Wahle 618-692-9434 or wahle@uiuc.edu. See following article.

Jun. 3 - Fruit Grower Orchard Meeting, Jeremy Hinton Orchard, Hodgenville, KY (LaRue County) Contact David Harrison 270-358-3401 or John Strang 859-257-5685.

Jun. 18 - A Comprehensive Human Resources Conference Focusing on Human Resource Risks with Producer Interaction, Pritchard Community Center, Elizabethtown, KY. Contact: Deanne Maus at 419-724-2930 or web site www.midamservices.org for program and registration information.

June 20-21 - 7th Annual Kentucky Blueberry Festival, on the Square in Edmonton, KY. Hosted by Kentucky Blueberry Growers Assoc., Inc. Contact: Larry Martin at 270-432-5836 or e-mail: a61853@scrtc.com.

Jul. 31 - Horticulture Research Farm Twilight Field Day, Lexington, KY. Contact John Strang 859-257-5685.

Aug. 10-13 - 99th Annual Meeting of Northern Nut Growers Association, College Station, TX. For additional information send an email with the subject, "NNGA 2008 Meeting," to: icomserve@aol.com

Sept. 6 - Pawpaw Workshop. KSU Research Farm, Frankfort, KY. Sponsored by Kentucky State University, The Pawpaw foundation and The Ohio Pawpaw Growers Association. Contact Kirk Pomper phone: 502-597-6375; email: kirk.pomper@kysu.edu

Sept. 25 - U.K. Robinson Station Field Day, 130 Robinson Road, Jackson, KY 41339. Contact Terry Jones 606-666-2438 X 234.

Jan. 5-6, 2009 - Kentucky Fruit & Vegetable Conference & Trade Show, Embassy Suites Hotel, Lexington, KY. Contact John Strang 859-257-5685 email: jstrang@uky.edu

Jan. 12-14, 2009 - Mid-States Horticultural Expo (MSHE). Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center, Louisville, KY. Sponsored by Kentucky Nursery and Landscape Association, Tennessee Nursery and Landscape Association, and Southern Nursery Association. Contact: SNA (Show Management); 770-953-3311; Fax, 770-953-4411; e-mail, mail@mshe.org; url, <http://www.mshe.org>

Mississippi Valley Peach Orchard Tour

by Elizabeth Wahle, IL Fruit & Vegetable Extension Specialist

The hosting location for the Mississippi Valley Peach Orchard Tour falls to Illinois this year and the date has been set for May 22. Rendleman Orchards, located approximately 12.5 miles south of Murphysboro on State Route 127 is hosting our tour. For growers coming from the south, Rendleman's is 2 miles north of Alto Pass, IL. Rendleman Orchards grows peaches, apples, cucumbers and summer squash for the wholesale market. They also have a retail market. See <http://www.rendlemans.com/>. Registration check-in will begin at 9:00 am CDT (morning refreshments available) and the tour will begin at 10:00 am. CDT. Lunch will be served on-site. An optional tour will be available after lunch to tour Rosemont Farms, a grower, shipper, importer and distributor of fresh fruits and vegetables.

The meeting is free, but we need an accurate lunch count for the caterers. Please register at <http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/edwardsvillecenter/> or call Elizabeth Wahle's office at 618-692-9434.

For those who may not know the history behind this multistate program, in 2004 Pat Byers (MSU), Tim Baker (UM Ext) and myself (UI Ext) restarted the Mississippi Valley Peach Orchard Tour. In 2004 it was hosted by Illinois. In 2005 Kentucky joined the program and hosted the tour at Bill Jackson's. In 2006, Missouri hosted the tour at Bill Bader's. The tour was put on hold following the Easter freeze in 2007 and thus is being held in Illinois in 2008.

Joe Masabni is planning to take a van of Kentucky growers to Illinois from Kentucky. Give Joe a call at 270-365-7541 X 247 or email: jmasabni@email.uky.edu if you are interested in riding in a van pool to the field day.

Fruit Grower Orchard Meeting

Tuesday, June 3

Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market
8631 Campbellsville Rd., Hodgenville, KY 42748
Jeremy and Joanna Hinton, owners
270-358-3857 or 270-325-3854

Directions:

From the east – Turn south off of the Bluegrass Parkway onto 31E at Bardstown toward Pioneer Pass. Turn left on to KY-470 and drive 4.7 miles. Then make a left on to KY-210 (Campbellsville Rd.) and travel 5.1 miles to Hinton's Orchard which will be on the right.

From the south – Take exit 81 from I-65 proceeding north onto KY-84 toward Sonora and travel (0.2 mi), turn right at KY-84/Western Ave. Drive 6.8 mi and turn left onto KY-84/Tanner Rd. Proceed 2.5 miles and turn left onto S Lincoln Blvd/US-31E after traveling 207 feet turn right on W. Maple Ave. for 0.1 mi. Turn left to stay on W. Maple Ave. for 0.2 mi and turn right onto KY-210 (Campbellsville Rd.) Travel 9 mi. and the orchard will be on the right.

From the west – Take the Wendell H Ford Western Kentucky Parkway east to KY-61 S. / Lincoln Parkway at Elizabethtown. Travel 7.9 mi and turn left onto W. Main St. In 0.7 mi turn right on to KY-210 (Campbellsville Rd.) Travel 9.4 miles and Hinton's Orchard will be on the right.

Program:

All times EDT

- 10:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:15 Tour of Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market
– *Jeremy Hinton*
- 11:05 Summer Fruit Diseases - *John Hartman*
- 11:35 Orchard Problem ID - *John Strang*
- 12:00 Lunch & short KSHS Board of Directors meeting

Lunch will be available for \$7.00 for those that preregister.

Preregister for lunch by calling Mary Ann Kelley at 270/365-7541 Ext. 216 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. CDT weekdays by Friday May 30 and give her a count for the Fruit Grower Meeting at Hinton's Orchard and Farm Market.

- 1:00 p.m. Kentucky Department of Agriculture Programs
– *Bill Holleran*
- 1:15 Do's and Don'ts with Herbicides - *Joe Masabni*
- 1:45 Apple Grower Round Table Discussion,
Fruit Thinning Experiences +
– *Maurice Fegenbush, moderator*
- 2:30 Cicadas and What to Do Afterward – *Ric Bessin*

Naturally-occurring Apple Compounds Reduce Risk of Pancreatic Cancer

From "Facts for Fancy Fruit" FFF 07-10, Purdue University. Original information from US Apple Association.

Eating flavonol-rich foods like apples may help reduce the risk of pancreatic cancer, says a team of international researchers. Quercetin, found naturally in apples and onions, has been identified as one of the most beneficial flavonols in preventing and reducing the risk of pancreatic cancer. Although the overall risk was reduced among the study participants, smokers who consumed foods rich in flavonols had a significantly greater risk reduction. This study, published in the October 15 issue of the American Journal of Epidemiology, is the first of its kind to evaluate the effect of flavonols "compounds found specifically in plants" on developing pancreatic cancer. According to the research paper, only a few prospective studies have investigated flavonols as risk factors for cancer, none of which has included pancreatic cancer.

Researchers from Germany, the Univ. of Hawaii and Univ. of Southern California tracked food intake and health outcomes of 183,518 participants in the Multiethnic Cohort Study for eight years. The study evaluated the participants food consumption and calculated the intake of the three flavonols quercetin, kaempferol, and myricetin. The analyses determined that flavonol intake does have an impact on the risk for developing pancreatic cancer.

The most significant finding was among smokers. Smokers with the lowest intake of flavonols presented with the most pancreatic cancer. Smoking is an established risk factor for the often fatal pancreatic cancer, notes the research. Among the other findings were that women had the highest intake of total flavonols and seventy percent of the flavonol intake came from quercetin, linked to apple and onion consumption.

It is believed that these compounds may have anticancer effects due to their ability to reduce oxidative stress and alter other cellular functions related to cancer development. "Unlike many of the dietary components, flavonols are concentrated in specific foods rather than in broader food groups, for example, in apples rather than in all fruit," notes the research study. Previously, the most consistent inverse association was found between flavonols, especially quercetin in apples and lung cancer, as pointed out in this study. No other epidemiological flavonol studies have included evalua-

tion of pancreatic cancer.

While found in many plants, flavonols are found in high concentrations in apples, onions, tea, berries, kale, and broccoli. Quercetin is most plentiful in apples and onions.

Cool, Wet Weather Favors Slugs

by Ric Bessin, U.K. Extension Entomologist

Different weather patterns favor different types of pests. With the prolonged cool, wet weather, we would expect that slugs and their damage might be more common on strawberries. If the weather turned and became dry and hot, the potential for slug damage would drop very quickly, or at least their activity would be restricted to overnight periods.

Slugs are common during these periods for cool wet weather because they have a high moisture requirement. With overcast skies and wet soils, slugs can stay active during the day feeding on the lower leaves of young plants with their rasping mouthparts. They tend to leave strips of damaged tissue between the veins of leaves. They also leave slivery trails behind to evidence their nightly travels.

During periods of favorable weather for slugs, they can be very difficult to control. Slug baits can be used with care, but these tend to be expensive, cannot come in contact with crops, and often need to be reapplied during the same weather that favors the slugs.

Home gardeners need to consider modifying the habitat around their strawberries to make it less hospitable for slugs. This would include removing objects that slugs can hide under to escape the sun and heat of the day (boards, tires, etc). Excessive mulch can also provide a moist habitat for slugs, so the depth of mulch can be reduced to discourage slugs.

Finally, slug traps have been shown to capture slugs in backyard situations. The traps are made from empty tuna or cat food cans that have been buried up to the lip in the soil. Stale beer is poured into the traps to partially fill the cans, this is the attractant for the slugs. A trial demonstrated that slugs prefer non-alcoholic beer over others. A cover is held about an inch over the traps to keep the traps from being washed out during rainy periods. Beer needs to be replenished on a periodic basis.

Gramoxone Inteon vs. Firestorm

– It’s a Tie!

by Wayne E. Mitchem, Clemson Univ., N.C. State Univ., and Univ. of Georgia, Cooperating, Mtn. Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center, Dept. of Horticultural Science, N.C. State University

A couple of years ago Syngenta replaced Gramoxone Max with a new paraquat formulation called Gramoxone Inteon. Gramoxone Inteon has been used in fruit preemergence herbicide trials as a standard non-selective postemergence herbicide. During the past 2 or 3 years Gramoxone Inteon has provided excellent non-selective weed control, however growers (from different states, growing different crops, more than 1 year) have expressed concern about Gramoxone Inteon activity on weeds. Firestorm, a generic paraquat formulation, is being marketed to growers across the Southeast and it has a favorable reputation with growers. In an effort to address grower concerns a trial was conducted this winter comparing Gramoxone Inteon and Firestorm. Each formulation was applied at two equivalent rates. Their effectiveness was evaluated 7 and 14 days after treatment. All treatments provided 100 % control of common chickweed 7 days after treatment. Observations made 14 days after treatment indicated that cutleaf eveningprimrose control from Gramoxone Inteon and Firestorm ranged from 96 to 100 % (Fig. 1). Henbit control 14 days after treatment ranged from 95 to 100 % (Fig. 1) with Firestorm and Gramoxone Inteon. Data was subjected to statistical analysis and there were no differences in control related to the herbicide treatments.

Results from this trial do not indicate any control advantage associated with the use of Firestorm

rather than Gramoxone Inteon. However one can conclude that Firestorm is just as effective as Gramoxone Inteon at controlling these common winter annual weeds. As a grower you can use this information and the market place to determine your product of choice.

Chateau Herbicide Update

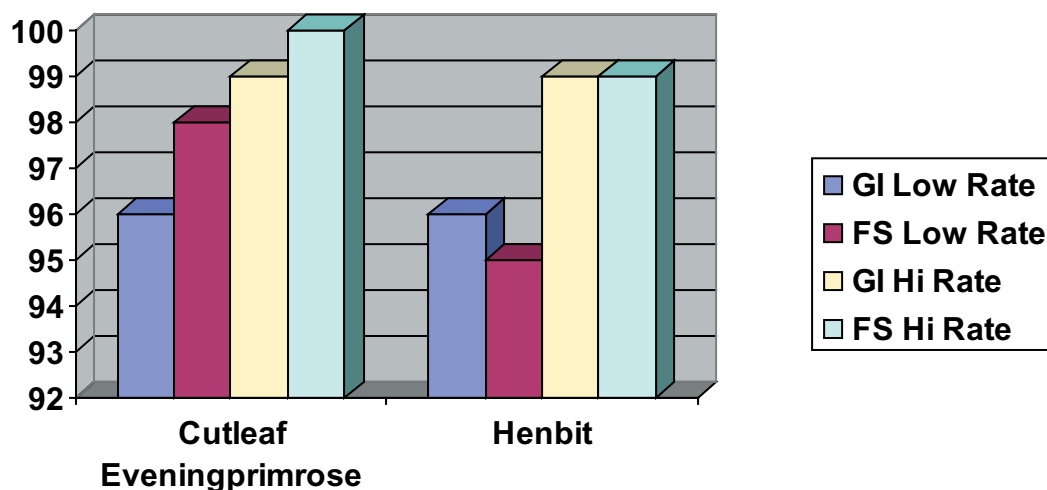
by John Strang, U.K. Extension Horticulturist

Chateau pre-emergence herbicide is currently approved by the EPA for use on a number of fruit crops including apples, pears, peaches, nectarines, plums, cherries, highbush blueberries, grapes and strawberries and nut crops including black walnut, butternut, chestnut, chinquapin, Persian walnut, hazelnut, heartnut, hickory nut and pecan.

On apples it can only be applied between final harvest and pink bud. On pears, peaches, nectarines, plums, cherries and highbush blueberries it can be used from final harvest to bud break. Blueberry plants must be established for two years. Chateau may be used on grapes that have been in the vineyard for two years or more up to within 60 days of harvest. Application on new plasticulture strawberry plantings requires application a minimum of 30 days before transplanting through plastic mulch. It can be applied to dormant strawberries over the entire planting and to strawberry row middles prior to fruit set with a shielded or hooded sprayer.

Chateau cannot be applied after bud break through final harvest on nut trees unless a shielded sprayer is used and spray drift does not contact non-target vegetation, fruit and/or foliage. It cannot be applied within 60 days of harvest on nut crops. Like most pre-emergence herbicides, Chateau requires rainfall or irrigation for activation.

Figure 1. Percent control of cutleaf eveningprimrose and henbit 14 days after treatment with Gramoxone Inteon and Firestorm applied at two equivalent rates¹.



¹GI = Gramoxone Inteon; FS = Firestorm; Low Rate = 0.63 lb ai A⁻¹; Hi Rate = 1.0 lb ai A⁻¹

New Herbicide for use in Fruits, Nuts, and Vinecrops: Matrix FNV 25DF

DuPont has released a new herbicide labeled for weed control in citrus fruit, stone fruit, tree nuts, pome fruit, and grapes (grapes must be established at least one full growing season before use.) This release came after the new changes were made to the Tree Fruit and Small Fruit Spray Guides and are hence not found in these publications. For growers interested in getting a copy of the Matrix FNV label, you can go to: (<http://www.cdms.net/LabelsMsds/LMDefault.aspx?t=>) and enter Matrix in the 'Brand Name' box. Keep in mind that there are 2 different labels for Matrix, namely Matrix and Matrix FNV. Only the latter is labeled for use in the crops listed above. Do not use the Matrix label as it doesn't cover any the fruit and small fruits.

Matrix FNV has a rating of 'Caution' meaning that a lethal dose >5,000 mg/kg body weight is necessary to kill 50% of the animals tested. Herbicides with a 'Caution' rating are relatively safe, but still require the following personal protective equipment when applying or handling the herbicide: long-sleeve shirt and long pants, chemical resistant gloves, and shoes plus socks.

Matrix FNV is labeled for selective control of certain broadleaves and grasses and has both preemergence and postemergence activity. Check label for complete list of weeds controlled. To broaden the weed control spectrum, Matrix FNV may be tank mixed with other registered herbicides affecting a different mode of action and/or adjuvants registered for use on the listed crops.

For maximum preemergence activity, the bed or soil surface should be smooth and relatively free of crop and weed trash. Leaves and trash may be removed by blowing the area or thoroughly mixing the trash through cultivation. Do not disturb the soil after application to avoid reducing activity of the herbicide.

Matrix FNV should be applied as a uniform broadcast application at 4 oz/acre/year. Matrix FNV can also be applied as a uniform band application directed to the base of the trunk or vine. Two applications are allowed if the herbicide is banded. However, a limit of 4 oz/acre/year should be observed. Apply Matrix FNV with a minimum of 10 gallons of spray per acre.

Best results are obtained when the soil is moist and ½ inch or rainfall or sprinkler irrigation occurs within 2 weeks of application. Matrix FNV may also be applied by certain chemigation methods, such as micro-sprinkler.

Susceptible weeds are controlled for 60 to 90 days after application. For maximum postemergence

activity, Matrix FNV should be tank mixed with an adjuvant and applied to young; actively growing weeds. Best results are achieved if Matrix FNV is tank mixed with a labeled burndown herbicide, such as glyphosate (Roundup and others), paraquat (Gramoxone and others), or glufosinate (Rely).

Other Conditions:

1. More than one banded application of Matrix FNV may be needed to provide extended weed control.
2. Do not apply by air. Use ground application equipment only.
3. Do not apply by overheard, flood, or drip irrigation.
4. Do not use a spray solution with a pH below 4.0 or above 8.0.
5. Use on soils with more than 6% organic matter will reduce activity.
6. Do not apply to frozen or snow covered soil. Crop injury may occur if applied to poorly drained soils.

Update on New Names of Old Insecticides

By G. Krawczyk and L. Hull, Department of Entomology, Pennsylvania State University, from Fruit Times vol. 27, No. 4

A number of older insecticide active ingredients are available on the market under new name(s). I compiled the list below based on a search conducted using the pesticide registration information provided at the web site: <http://www.cdms.net/LabelsMsds/LMDefault.aspx?t>

Abamectin – (AgriMek) – additional new names: Abacus, Abba, Temprano, Zoro

Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban) – additional new names: Warhawk, Yuma

Imidacloprid (Provado) – additional new names: Prey, Lada, Widow, Courage, ImidaStar, ImidaE-AG, Montana, Leverage (plus cyfluthrin)

Endosulfan (Thiodan) – additional new names: Thionex, Phaser

Fenpyroximate (FujiMite) – additional new name: Portal

Hexythiazox (Savey) – additional new name: Onager

Bifenthrin (Brigade) – additional new names: Discipline, Fanfare, Tundra,

Cyfluthrin (Baythroid) – Leverage (plus imidacloprid), Tombstone

Deltamethrin (Decis) – additional new names: Battalion, Delta Gold

Esfenvalerate (Asana) – additional new name: Adjourn

Lambda-cyhalothrin (Warrior) – additional new names: Karate, Lambda-Cy, Lambda-T, Taiga

Kentuckians and Organic Food Purchases

Tim Woods, U.K. Extension Agricultural Economist

Some early results are back from the March 2008 Kentucky Food Consumer Panel revealing some interesting perspectives on the purchase of organic foods by Kentucky households. This survey, targeting households in all 120 counties, provides insight into food purchase behaviors across a variety of demographics.

Organic foods have become much more accessible in recent years. The growth in natural foods merchandisers, farm markets, and imported organic foods have expanded this into a mainstream food category. Most conventional food retailers have accommodated this consumer trend by expanding their own offerings of organic foods. The category has grown steadily at about 20% per year, although for items like produce, organic only makes up about 2% of the total consumer expenditures.

The KFCP survey shows that about 16% of Kentuckians purchase some kind of organic food regularly and 35% purchase some organic product at least once per month.

Organic Food Purchases	Number	Percent
Rarely	231	65%
Occasionally (Once per month)	66	19%
Regularly (More than once per month)	58	16%

Total 355

As one might expect, there was a slight difference with the propensity to purchase organic products among urban households (in counties with over 60,000 people) as opposed to those in more rural areas. There seem to exist at least geographical differences in demand for organic products. Other factors, such as age, income, gender, household size, education, and other demographic factors will be examined within this data set to better understand the organic consumer in Kentucky.

Considerable attention has been directed nationally to the customer segment referred to as the Lifestyle of Health and Sustainability (LOHAS). Many companies specifically target this segment, recognizing these consumers are fiercely loyal, pay substantial premiums for health, social welfare, and environmental attributes associated with their products. This segment is a significant and thriving demographic within Kentucky and will continue to draw targeted product development from many direct marketing farmers and other food firms.

Additional detail on the Kentucky Food Consumer Panel will be forthcoming over the next several months. Look for summaries and reports on this data set to be posted at the KFCP home page: <http://dept.ca.uky.edu/kyfood/home.aspx>.

Organic Food Purchases

	Rarely	Occasionally (Once per month)	Regularly (More than once per month)	Total
Rural	151 68.6%	42 19.1%	27 12.3%	220
Urban	80 59.3%	24 17.8%	31 23.0%	135

Receiving Fruit Facts Electronically on the Internet

Fruit Facts is available on the web in the pdf format. To get notification of the monthly Fruit Facts posting automatically and approximately two weeks earlier than it would normally be received via mail, you can subscribe to the UK College of Agriculture's Fruit Facts listserv.

New subscription requests and requests to unsubscribe should be addressed as follows.

To subscribe type "ListServer,l-s-v" in the To: line of your e-mail message.

Please enter a subject in the Subject: line -- the system needs for the Subject line not to be empty (blank).

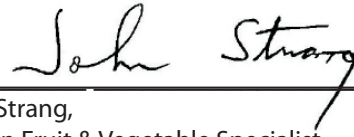
In the message body, enter the following two lines (nothing more!):

subscribe KY-FRUITFACTS

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You should receive confirmation by return e-mail. 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-fruitfacts@lsv.uky.edu



John G. Strang,
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