



Kentucky Fruit Facts

Research & Education Center
P.O. Box 469, Princeton, KY 42445

April/May 2002 (4/5-02)

John Strang, Editor, Marilyn Hooks and Karen Shahan, Staff Assistants

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

Fruit Crop Status and News

It's been a fairly rainy spring and hopefully growers have been able to maintain an adequate spray schedule. It has been considerably more than fairly rainy in the western end of the state. We have had a number of scab, cedar apple rust, quince rust and fire blight infection periods on apples and black rot infection periods on grapes. The extremely warm temperatures in April generally provided very good pollination conditions, but may have created another bad fire blight season. Fire blight blossom and shoot blight infections became apparent in Lexington on May 1 on trees that had not received Streptomycin sprays. If wilting fire blight infected shoots are removed promptly the infection can often be halted from spreading in the tree. This is particularly important on trees that are less than five years old to keep the blight from moving into the trunk and killing the trees.

We have begun catching codling moths in our pheromone traps in Lexington, but we have not caught enough as of May 2 to begin our biofix and degree day tabulation for our first spray. So far we have not seen any plum curculio feeding, which is unusual.

Peach and apple crops look very good for most growers and fruit thinning should be a priority now. On apples the best approach is to apply thinning materials as weather permits, observe results, and apply again if needed.

Our two major freeze events (March 4 and March 22) caused some to fairly substantial damage on apples and/or peaches through the Nelson, Larue and Pulaski county areas. There was a fair amount of damage on peaches in many orchards from the freeze as evidenced by some fruit that are failing to enlarge, probably due to ovary damage, but there seem to be enough fruit enlarging for good crops.

Apple tree trunk ringing or scoring should be done between petal fall and the first cover spray. This technique can be used to induce flower bud initiation on trees that have been difficult to bring into bearing and it can also be used to help with return bloom.

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board has awarded a grant to the Grape Industry Advisory Committee (GIAC) to conduct a Market Opportunities Feasibility Study. The firm of Motto, Kryla & Fischer LLP (MFP) has been hired and is currently conducting this study to develop a business plan for the Kentucky grape industry. Three industry forums will be held in early May for growers to discuss industry needs as outlined below.

The Grape Industry Advisory Committee legislation was passed during this past session and the GIAC will be converted into an industry Council that will reside within the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. The Council will be able to handle funding, which the GIAC was unable to do, and develop programs and policies to best meet our industry goals.

The most important grape sprays are those around bloom for fruit rot control. Consult the Commercial Small Fruit and Spray Guide for recommendations. We were a little surprised at the lack of grape flea beetles earlier in the spring.

Please note that the date for the Apple Cider Producer HACCP Plan Development workshop has been rescheduled for May 16 due to a scheduling conflict.

The short term weather forecast is for near normal temperatures and precipitation. In the long term the El Nino weather pattern is predicted to begin influencing our weather by June. This weather system deflects the jet stream, causing the southeast U.S. to be very wet and cool. Since Kentucky is in the border region between the northern and southern U.S., influences of this system on our weather can be a little unpredictable depending on the jet stream deflection. The National Weather Service expects the El Nino system to be fully developed by December or January.

(John Strang, Cynthia Bohn, Dave Loney and Tom Priddy)

Upcoming Meetings

May 8, 9, 10 - Kentucky Vineyard Society Grape and Wine Industry Forums, Pulaski, Franklin and Hardin County Extension Offices. Please see article below.

May 16 - Apple Cider Producer Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan Development Workshop, Hardin County Extension Office, Elizabethtown. 9:00 am - 4:00 p.m. Contact John Strang 859/257-5685. See article below.

May 23-25 - Bacchus to The Future - An International Wine Conference in Niagara, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada. A major international conference on wine. Bacchus to the Future will bring together specialists, professionals and wine enthusiasts for a unique three-day meeting that includes a series of papers, presentations, round-table discussions and tastings. The conference will focus on three key areas of interest, offering participants an opportunity to discuss current

developments in: wine business and marketing, wine culture, and sensory and health aspects of wine. Contact website: bacchustothefuture.com, Email:bacchus@brocku.ca, or write: Bacchus to the Future Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada L2S 3A1.

Jun. 4 - Apple IPM Meeting, Joseph Beachy's Orchard, Casey County, Liberty, KY Contact Tommy Yankey 606/787-7384 or John Strang 859/257-5685.

Jun. 15 - Kentucky Vineyard Society Summer Meeting & Grape IPM Meeting, Lover's Leap Vineyards and Winery, Ann and Jerry Holder owners, 129 Lovers Leap, Lawrenceburg, KY. Contact John Pitcock 502/227-4630.

Jul. 10-12 - 27th Conference of The American Society for Enology & Viticulture - Eastern Section meeting, Sheraton Baltimore North, 903 Dulaney Valley Rd., Towson, MD, Baltimore, MD. For the program see the website: <http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/fst/asev/>

Jul. 18 - UK Research and Education Center All-Commodity Field Day, Princeton, KY Contact; Sam McNeill 270/365-7541 ext 213; fax, 270/365-2667; e-mail, smcneill@uky.edu

Jan. 6-7, 2003 Kentucky Annual Fruit and Vegetable Grower Conference and Trade Show, Holiday Inn North, Lexington, KY. Contact John Strang 859/257-5685

Kentucky Vineyard Society Wine Industry Forums

Cynthia Bohn, Chair GIAC and Dave Loney, President KVS

Over the last three years our Kentucky Grape and Wine Industry has grown by over 500%! This tremendous growth has been in part to the increased interest in grape growing and market opportunity for Kentucky-produced grape products and wines. We are all very proud to be directly involved in this new emerging industry.

With that said, we ask everyone's assistance in helping us formalize our industry programs, infrastructure and funding policies. This requires the participation of many of you as we move forward in documenting our current grape and wine industry so that we can best plan for new programs and funding requirements. The benefit of doing this is that Kentucky will end up with much more successful

wineries and growers, who are properly financed and supported by our government and industry associations. This will allow us to be much more competitive on the market overtime.

We received favorable Legislation this past Session and will formally become an industry Council that will reside within our KY Department of Agriculture. We are now in position to move forward with establishing the Council's programs and policies to best meet our industry's needs. Your information and participation in the upcoming Forums will help us substantiate and effect future program funding requirements. For example, many of you may have county and state project ADB funding requests residing at the Office of Agriculture Policy. This new industry information is will be very beneficial in evaluating these ADB project funding evaluations.

We are asking for everyone's help in participating in forthcoming data collection surveys as we document our current industry status. Some of you will also be asked to participate in 1:1 interviews or meetings. The current task of collecting accurate data is of utmost importance. To facilitate this process, we are holding three Industry Forums on **May 8th, May 9th and May 10th**. These Forums will be held in three different locations to accommodate our members regionally: **Pulaski Cty, Franklin Cty and Hardin Cty**. Please try to attend one of these Forums to discuss our grape and wine industry needs! See the attached map and dates.

The collected information will be used confidentially by our contracted consulting firm, Motto, Kryla & Fisher LLP (MKF), to map our existing industry status to our future needs. MKF is the nation's leading wine industry business advisory firm that will conduct Market Opportunities Feasibility Study for Kentucky. MKF will be directly involved in collecting all data and assessing other "Wine East" state programs so that we can learn the best practices and approaches in developing our grape and wine industry.

There is a lot of work to be done in the near term and we need everyone's help. It is exciting to have the opportunity to finally establish our industry rank in a formal manner. So many of you have volunteered and shepherded our industry to this point. Hats off to those who have been pioneers in getting our industry this far! We're on to the next important steps. We hope that you will want to join in and be an active participant.

May 8 -- 10am-12pm EST
Pulaski County Extension Office
28 Parkway Dr., Somerset, KY 42503
606-679-6361

→ Take HWY 80 towards the Parkway.
(you will cross over HWY 27 at the HWY 80 - HWY 27 intersection). Proceed through 1 traffic light and take next left. **DO NOT TAKE THE PARKWAY TOLL ROAD**. The office is a 2-story brick bldg on the left.

May 9 – 10am-12pm EST
Franklin County Extension Office
Frankfort, KY 40601
502-695-9035

→ Take 460 (Georgetown Rd) to Steadmantown Rd (KY 2822). The Extension Ofc is the second left off Steadmantown at the corner of Lakeview Ct behind Lakeview Park . Meeting room on the 2nd floor.
(Enter through glass doors on the right of the bldg.)

May 10 – 10am-12pm CST
Hardin County Extn Office
201 Peterson Drive, Elizabethtown, KY 42701
502-765-4121

→ Take HWY 62 through Elizabethtown (heading toward Cecilia). Peterson Drive is the first drive on the RIGHT after the Shell station. Red brick building

Apple Cider Producer Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan Development Workshop, May 16

Make plans to attend this workshop if you make or intend to make apple cider. This applies to producers that make and sell both flash pasteurized and unpasteurized apple cider. HACCP plans will be required for all cider makers by 2004. This workshop is designed to help you develop a HACCP plan for your operation.

Dr. Joe O'Leary, microbiologist of the Animal Sciences Department, UK College of Agriculture, Guy Delius and Anita Travis from the Department of Public Health, Food Safety Branch in Frankfort and Dr. Sandra Bastin, Foods and Nutrition Specialist, Family and Consumer Sciences, from the University of Kentucky and George Puckett, apple grower, Irvine, KY, will conduct the program.

Cider producers will need to bring a flow diagram of the equipment in their cider making operation to facilitate the development of their own HACCP plans.

Directions:

The Extension Office is located just off of U.S. 62 about two miles west from downtown Elizabethtown, directly behind the Cecilia Auto Sales Lot.

In approaching Elizabethtown from western Kentucky on U.S. 62, turn left at Peterson Drive - first street past the Manakee Funeral Home.

Approaching from the east or north, drive west on U.S. 62 through Elizabethtown and turn right at Peterson Drive - first street past the Cecelia Auto Sales Lot. The Extension office phone number is 270-765-4121.

Apple and Grape Alert List Serves

by John Strang

We have initiated a new KY-Grape-Alert list serve and have replaced our previous Aplalert list serve with KY-Apple-Alert. These list serves provide up to date Kentucky pest development information on our grape and apple crops based on observations from around the state and from computerized pest predictors at the Princeton Research and Education Center and the Lexington Horticultural Research Farm. These lists will allow us to rapidly provide you with information on developing pest situations across the state.

You will be able to subscribe or signoff from the lists at any time. Both of these list serves are directed towards commercial apple and grape growers, but anyone with an interest can subscribe.

These are news-only mailing lists; subscribers are not permitted to send messages to the list. Since we are all suffering from e-mail overload we do not intend to send a large number of messages.

To subscribe send an e-mail message addressed to: listserv@lsv.uky.edu

Any subject may be placed on the subject line.

Write only this as your message: subscribe ky-apple-alert or subscribe ky-grape-alert followed by a blank line.

You will receive two responses, the first notifying you that your request has been received and to wait for the second message. The second describes how to confirm your request. You must confirm your request using one of the three ways

shown (web access, e-mail or new e-mail message) Upon successfully confirming, you should get a welcome message.

To leave either of the lists at any time send an e-mail message addressed to listserv@lsv.uky.edu

Again any subject may be placed on the subject line.

Enter the command as the message: signoff ky-apple-alert or signoff ky-grape-alert.

Kentucky Blueberry Growers Association Inc. Initiated

The Kentucky Blueberry Growers Association Inc. has officially become a reality. The paper work for the organization was recently completed and the first president is Larry Martin and the Vice-President is Jean Daniels. Organizational contacts can be made through Bluegrass Blueberries and Miniature Roses, 8080 Subtle Rd., Edmonton, KY 42129; phone 270-432-5836; e-mail 61853@scrtc.blue.net

Correction -- Orchard Chemical Suppliers List Address

Our March Fruit Facts newsletter Orchard Chemical Suppliers list incorrectly listed the address and phone numbers for UAP Richter. Please accept our apologies for this mistake and add this company to the March listing. The web version of this list has been corrected. John has been an excellent source for many of the more difficult to find fruit pesticides over the years for Kentucky growers. The correct contact is:

UAP Richter/ John Phillips
1395 N. Hoosier Blvd., Peru, IN 46970
Office: 800-225-6793; Fax: 317-831-2559
Pager 888-474-6470
E-mail: John.Phillips@uap.com

Signup for Apple Grower Assistance Program Began April 29

Peter Hirst, Extension Fruit Specialist, Purdue University, Facts for Fancy Fruits newsletter

Washington, April 17, 2002 The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced that

signup for the 2000 Apple Market Loss Assistance Program (AMLAP-II) will begin April 29, 2002. AMLAP-II will provide about \$75 million to eligible growers for their 2000-crop apple production. The payments will help offset economic losses due to low prices in the U.S. apple market. Growers can receive payment per pound for their 2000-crop apple production, and they will be paid on a maximum of 5 million pounds per separate apple operation. To receive cash payments, eligible apple producers must: (1) have produced and harvested apples during the 2000-crop year; (2) not have received compensation from any other federal programs, other than crop insurance, for the same market loss; and (3) apply for cash payments during the application period for each apple operation. The deadline for application under the AMLAP-II program will be announced later. This will be handled through the Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices.

San Jose Scale

by Ric Bessin, Extension Entomologist

San Jose scale has become more of a problem in Kentucky due to the loss of several products that effectively kept this insect under control in the past. New EPA restrictions on the use of PennCap-M and Lorsban have forced producers to find other methods to keep this orchard-threatening insect from damaging apple, pear, and peach trees. It is a sucking insect that injects a toxin into the plant as it feeds, causing localized discolorations. The presence of reddish blemishes on fruit at harvest indicates potentially damaging numbers on the trees. Left uncontrolled, San Jose scale can kill the entire tree in a few years. If such damage is noted, inspect trees for scale, especially one year-old wood. Purplish-red halos on young bark are indications of scale infestation.

On apples, a new insect growth regulator, Esteem, is available to control San Jose scale. It can be used to control the nymphs when applied during the late dormant to pink stage, or it can be used to target the crawlers in late May. It is not registered for use on peaches. On peaches, growers in the south have had good control with multiple oil applications. In these areas, growers using two oil sprays during dormant and delayed dormant periods reduced their problems with San Jose scale. When using oils, read and follow label precautions carefully.

Sooty Blotch and Flyspeck Control on Apples

John Hartman, Extension Plant Pathologist

Most growers are close to the first cover period (10 days after initial petal fall). At the U.K. Horticultural research farm, using the "Show- Me" disease predictor, we have begun the computer program for sooty blotch and flyspeck. This program records and sums all leaf wetness from first cover until a total of 168 hours of leaf wetness is reached. At that point, growers know that they will need to apply a fungicide that will effectively control sooty blotch and flyspeck.

The Strobilurin Fungicides and First Cover.

The new strobilurin fungicides, Sovran and Flint, control many diseases. However, they are prone to the development of resistance. Growers should try to use strobilurins in a way that maximizes effectiveness and minimize resistance. One suggestion (as outlined in the recent Indiana Facts For Fancy Fruit newsletter) would be to use Flint or Sovran ONLY in the FIRST, THIRD and SEVENTH cover sprays (three times only) for control of fruit scab and sooty blotch and flyspeck. Field testing at other universities confirms the idea that Sovran, applied at the full rate, gives excellent control of both fruit scab and sooty blotch and flyspeck when applied at these three times (first, third and seventh cover). The real strength of Strobilurins may lie in the control of fruit scab and sooty blotch and flyspeck.

Strawberry Gray Mold Management Reminder

John Hartman, Extension Plant Pathologist

Strawberry growers are reminded that if fungicides are to be used for management of fruit rot diseases, now is the time to apply them. Gray mold fruit rot, caused by the fungus *Botrytis cinerea*, is the most common fruit rot disease of Kentucky strawberries. Fruit rot is favored by rainy weather such as we have been experiencing in Kentucky for the past several weekends. Strawberries which have been mulched with straw will not have as much fruit rot. To prevent fruit rot, fungicides are best applied

Cooperative Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture
Lexington, Kentucky 40546

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Official Business
Penalty for Private Use, \$300

during bloom, and not to the fruits themselves closer to harvest.

Fungicides for strawberry gray mold fruit rot; Benlate, Topsin-M, Elevate, Switch, Captan, and Thiram are cleared for use on strawberries. Benlate, Topsin-M, Elevate, and Switch are prone to development of resistance by the gray mold fungus, so they must not be used by themselves for the whole season. Of these, Benlate and Topsin-M have similar modes of action, so they would not be used in an alternating spray program. Captan or Thiram may be used alone, because they are not prone to fungal resistance development. Switch is a new fungicide and provides excellent control of Botrytis.

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 Majordomo list processor.

New subscription requests and requests to unsubscribe should be addressed as follows. To subscribe type "majordomo194@ca.uky.edu" 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 fruitfacts
end
Or, to unsubscribe, the lines:
unsubscribe fruitfacts
end
```

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-fruitfacts@ca.uky.edu

John Strang, Extension Horticulturist

