

Kentucky Fruit Facts

January 2003 (1/03)

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

John Strang, Extension Fruit Specialist, Editor
Marilyn Hooks & Karen Shahan, Staff Assistants

Fruit Crop News

John Strang, Extension Horticulturist

Please note that we have shortened the Fruit Facts URL to make life easier.

The Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Grower Conference and Trade Show in early January went well and all sessions were well attended. It became apparent at the meeting that there have been a number of pesticide changes for fruit crops. The Kentucky Commercial Tree Fruit Spray Guide (ID-92) and the Midwest Commercial Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide (ID-94) were passed out at the meeting. These should be available for growers through their county extension offices in the next several weeks.

The 2002 Fruit and Vegetable Research Report, which contains the results of Kentucky fruit and vegetable research trials from the University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University and Berea College was also made available to



growers. A printed copy can be obtained from Brent Rowell in early February at 859/257-3374, e-mail browell@uky.edu or it can be found on the web at <http://www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/pr/pr470/pr470.pdf>

Our Horticultural Extension Associates, Chris Smigell and Shane Bogle recently completed a Kentucky Winegrape Grower Survey. The survey shows that we now have 282 acres of commercial winegrapes being grown by 77 growers. Winegrape acreage has increased four-fold over the past four years. Examination of the acreage shows that 50 percent are American French hybrid, 38 percent are European or *vinifera* and 12% are American varieties. Growers reported a 2002 yield of 160 tons and a yield of 508 tons is projected for 2003 if the weather cooperates. The full report can be found on our Horticultural web site at <http://www.uky.edu/Ag/Horticulture/comfruit.html#grapes>

Several growers have called concerning seventeen-year cicada populations for the coming season. Ric Bessin indicates that next year will not be a problem although we may see a few in Pike county. They will emerge state wide in 2004, but probably won't be too bad. If you remember...the last brood for this

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population was seen in 1987. In 2007 there will be scattered populations. However, in 2008 we will have a very large emergence, which was last seen in 1991.

Keep an eye on orchard vole activity, as populations can increase very rapidly. Voles were particularly severe last season and caused considerable orchard damage. Since, these populations cycle, they are liable to be severe this season also.

Make sure that vegetation is mowed close in and around the orchard to eliminate vole habitat. Ditch banks and fencerows near orchards should be cleaned up to prevent vole populations from increasing in these areas and then moving into the orchard. Watch for recently used burrows and runways and use zinc phosphide if needed. This material is a restricted use material and the only material cleared for vole control in Kentucky.

Plum growers can use this time to clean wild plum and cherry trees from fencerows. These trees harbor the black knot inoculum that infects plum trees. When pruning begins on plums, old black knot infections should be pruned out of the trees 6 to 8 inches below the knots.

Upcoming Meetings

Jan. 27-29 Indiana Horticultural Congress. Adams Mark Hotel, Indianapolis, IN. For program and registration information contact Penny White 765/494-1301 or <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/hort/ext/hortcongress>

Feb. 3-8 North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Conference and Trade Show, Adam's Mark Charlotte, Charlotte, NC. For registration information, call Jonathan Bates, 413/529-0386, e-mail: nafdma@map.com, or visit www.nafdma.com See article below.

Feb. 4 Northern Kentucky Specialty Crop and Niche Crop Production and Marketing Seminar, Boone County Extension Office, Burlington, KY. Contact Mike Klahr 859/586-6101

Feb. 5 Southern Illinois Tree Fruit School, Cobden, IL. Contact Elizabeth Wahle 618/692-9434, e-mail wahle@uiuc.edu

Feb. 7-8 Mid-Atlantic Winter Brambles Conference: The "North American Bramble Growers Association - Mid Atlantic region" and Virginia Cooperative Extension are sponsoring a

bramble meeting, Holiday Inn at Carradoc Hall, Leesburg, VA. For program and registration information, contact Richard Fagan 301/724-4085, e-mail rfagan@mindspring.com or <http://www.nabga.com>

Feb. 8-10 18th Annual Midwest Regional Grape and Wine Conference, Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO. Conference fee \$100 before Jan. 17 and \$150 after this date. Pre-Conference seminars, meals etc. are in addition to this. Contact Denise Kottwitz 800/392-WINE or 573/751-3374.

Feb. 9-11 Ohio Grape-Wine Short Course, Wyndham Dublin Hotel, Dublin, OH. Contact 800/227-6972 or www.ohiowines.org

Feb. 20 Laurel and Clay County Pruning and Grafting Workshop, London. Contact Glenn Williams 606/864-4167 or Jeff Casada 606/598-2789.

Feb. 24-26 Heartland Wine School. Commercial winemaking - from bulk to bottle. Oliver Winery, Bloomington, IN. Sponsored by the Heartland Grape and Wine Coalition, (Purdue, Ohio State and Michigan State Universities). Contact Jill Blume, Dept. of Food Science, 745 Agricultural Mall Drive, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2009. E-mail blume@foodsci.purdue.edu

Feb. 26 Blueberry Production Workshop, Metcalfe County Extension Office, Edmonton, KY. Contact Darrell Burks 270/432-3561. See program and directions below.

Feb. 27 Apple Pruning and Grafting Demonstration and The Economics of Commercial Apple Production, Perry County. Contact Charles May. 606/436-2044.

Feb. 28 Northern Piedmont Specialty Crops School, Southern Livestock Center, 1.5 miles south of the I-85 and US 15 interchange on US 15 South, Oxford, NC. Contact Carl Cantaluppi 919/603-1350 or carl_cantaluppi@ncsu.edu

Mar. 4-5 Small Fruit and Strawberry School, Mt. Vernon Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, IL. Registration \$20.00 per farm. Contact Bronwyn Aly 618/695-2444 E-mail: baly@uiuc.edu

Mar. 22 Kentucky Vineyard Society Grapevine Integrated Pest Management and Pruning Workshop, Old Crow Inn, Chateau Vieux du Corbeau Vineyard, Danville, KY. Contact John Strang 859/257-5685

Mar. 29 Kentucky Vineyard Society Grapevine Pruning Workshop. Princeton Research and Education Center, Princeton, KY. 1:00 p.m. CST. Contact Joe Masabni 270/365-7541, jmasabni@uky.edu

Apr. 16 Commercial Apple IPM Meeting, The Bramble Ridge Orchard, 2726 Osborne Rd., Mt. Sterling, KY. Contact John Strang

Apr. 24 Fruit Tree Budding and Grafting Workshop, Boone County Extension Office, Burlington. 7:00-8:30 p.m. Contact Mike Klahr 859/586-6101.

Apr. 26 Kentucky Nut Growers Association Spring Meeting, Hardin County Extension office, Elizabethtown, KY. Contact Hugh Ligon 270/827-9044.

Jun. 10 Commercial Apple IPM Meeting, Reid's Orchard, Owensboro, KY

Jul. 15 Commercial Apple IPM Meeting, Princeton Research and Education Center, Princeton, KY. Contact Joe Masabni 270/365-7541 ext. 247

Blueberry Production Workshop Wednesday, February 26, 2003

Metcalfe County Extension Office
P.O. Box 55, 422 East St., Edmonton, KY 42129
Preregister: Call 270/432-3561.

Blueberries are beginning to be recognized as an excellent agricultural diversification crop for some growers. They are one of the most dependable producers of all the fruit crops. The long term profit potential and market for blueberries is good, however, it does take 3-4 years to get into production and some farms may not have a suitable site for blueberries. This workshop is designed to provide growers with the basics for establishing a commercial blueberry operation.

Directions to Metcalfe County Extension Office

From the North

From the Bluegrass Parkway (exit 42) take 555 South to Springfield. Pick up 55 and proceed through Campbellsville and Columbia. Just south of Columbia take the Cumberland Parkway to the West. Exit at the Edmonton toll booth (exit 27) and proceed to the four-way stop

at the courthouse square in Edmonton. Travel half way around the square and take 496 (East Street), which is between the Edmonton Post Office and Topps Mfg. The office is located on the right approximately one block from the square in the big left hand turn. Look for the CEC logo and the blue awning.

From the East or West

Take the Cumberland Parkway and exit at the Edmonton toll booth (exit 27) and follow the directions as above.

Directions to Larry Martin and Jean Daniel's Bluegrass Blueberry Farm

From the Metcalfe County Extension office turn right out of the parking lot on to 496 heading out of town. Travel 8 to 9 miles. Look for Box 880 and the sign for Blueberry Bushes and Miniature Horses on your left. Phone 270-432-5836

CST

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|------------|--|
| 10:00 a.m. | Welcome/ Opening remarks
- Darrell Burks |
| 10:15 a.m. | KADF Agricultural Diversification Cost-share Program
- Bill McCloskey |
| 10:45 a.m. | Blueberry Production
- John Strang |
| 11:30 a.m. | Blueberry Economics
- Tim Woods and Mat Ernst |
| 11:45 a.m. | Lunch on your own |
| 1:00 p.m. | Blueberry Weed Control
- Joe Masabni |
| 1:45 p.m. | Pest Control and Irrigation
- Terry Jones |
| 2:30 p.m. | Leave for Bluegrass Blueberries, Owned and Operated by Larry Martin and Jean Daniels |
| 2:45 p.m. | Blueberry Pruning Demonstration
- John Strang and Terry Jones |

Kentucky Farm Bureau's Certified Roadside Farm Market Program

J. K. Henshaw, Director of Commodity Relations, Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation

Bringing more customers to your market is the purpose of the Kentucky Farm Bureau's Certified Roadside Farm Market Program. By collectively advertising we can help you reach

more customers for your market for a fraction of the cost of advertising individually.

A featured promotion of vineyards and wineries is a natural fit for our promotional programs. Services provided last year included half-page and full page color advertising, internet listings at <http://www.kyfb.com>, 40,000 roadside brochures, point of sale recipe brochures, and individualized press releases. We plan to offer similar programs again this season.

This year we are looking for more opportunities to work with each member market, targeting local media outlets for promotion and agri-tourism development. All of these services are available to members of the Certified Roadside Farm Market Program at the cost of \$250 per market per year.

If you have an interest in expanding your customer base and increasing sales contact J. K. Henshaw at 502/495-5106.

Cabrio Registration for Berry Crops

Mike Ellis, Extension Plant Pathologist
The Ohio State University

Cabrio 20 EG fungicide (pyraclostrobin) was recently registered for use on blueberry, blackberry, raspberry and strawberry. It is registered for control of *Alternaria* leaf spot and fruit rot, powdery mildew, anthracnose fruit rot, *Phomopsis* leaf blight and twig blight, and suppression of mummy berry and *Botrytis* gray mold on blueberry. On brambles it is registered for control of anthracnose, *Septoria* leaf spot, raspberry leaf spot, powdery mildew, rust diseases and spur blight, and suppression of *Botrytis* gray mold. On strawberry it is registered for control of anthracnose fruit rot, powdery mildew and leaf spot, and suppression of *Botrytis* gray mold. Cabrio is an excellent material and provides good to excellent control of all these diseases. This is a very important product on brambles, largely due to the current lack of registered fungicides on brambles. Cabrio is a strobilurin fungicide. This is the same class of chemistry as Quadris, and Abound. Quadris is currently registered for use on strawberry, and Abound is currently registered for use on blueberry and grape. For purposes of fungicide resistance management, only four applications

of Cabrio can be applied per crop per season on blueberry and brambles and no more than five applications can be made per season on strawberry. In addition, no more than two sequential applications can be made before switching to a fungicide with another type of chemistry. Cabrio cannot be alternated with Quadris or Abound as a fungicide resistance management strategy. Cabrio has a 0-day preharvest interval on all registered berry crops; however, the re-entry interval is 24 hours. Remember: Always read the label.

NAFDMA Conference Going South

An outstanding conference and trade show and warm southern hospitality (and maybe a warm southern winter?) are expected to help draw a record number of attendees to the 2003 North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Conference and Trade Show, to be held Feb. 3-10, 2003, at the Adam's Mark Charlotte in Charlotte, N.C. The conference, sponsored by the North American Farmers' Direct Marketing Association (NAFDMA), was held in Toronto, Ont., Canada, in 2002. Conference organizers are expecting at least 1,000 direct marketers from around the world to attend. For registration information, call Jonathan Bates at (413) 529-0386, e-mail nafdma@map.com, or visit www.nafdma.com.

The conference will kick off with its highly anticipated, always full, preconference bus tour from Feb. 3-5. The tour will stop at farms in North Carolina as well as South Carolina. These farms have been carefully chosen to represent the cutting edge of farm direct marketing.

Feb. 6 is reserved for a full day of workshops. Speakers will lead intensive sessions that are sure to stimulate new ideas and boost your bottom line. Eight workshops are available; topics include merchandising, customer service, developing a marketing plan, selling gifts, zoning, school tours, and farmers' markets. Workshops often fill up, so be sure to reserve your spot early.

Feb. 7 and 8 are dedicated to two general sessions and 35 concurrent conference sessions. This year, eight tracks cover the following topics: farmers' markets, on-farm functions, agri-tourism, specialties, reaching

new customers, advanced markets, rural tourism and producing for retail.

A trade show will begin the evening of Feb. 6 and end on Feb. 8. Many companies, including specialty food processors, cookbook publishers and seed companies, have already committed to the show. Visit <http://www.nafdma.com/tradeshow.htm> to view the most recent list of exhibitors. NAFDMA expects to have around 100 premier vendor booths at the trade show.

A post-conference bus tour on Feb. 9 and 10 will round out the conference. The tour will stop at more farm markets, plus local areas of interest.

In addition to all of the educational events, the conference will also offer plenty of opportunities for networking and socializing. Two highlights are NAFDMA Race Night and the annual NAFDMA awards banquet.

Please pre-register to ensure your spot in workshops and to reserve meals and a seat at Race Night and the banquet. Pre-registration is mandatory for the pre-conference bus tour.

Visit <http://www.nafdma.com/conference/carolinas/index.htm> for more details.

Common Pesticide Infractions

Lee Townsend, Extension Entomologist

Listed below are common infractions of pesticide laws as found by inspectors in one EPA region. I suspect that many of these could be on a list from Kentucky, as well. The list provides some good points to consider because it serves as a reminder of some of the simple things that can be overlooked. The points are valid for both private and commercial applicators.

Invalid business or applicator license. In Kentucky, all commercial certifications expire on December 31 of the final year. Commercial applicators need to earn 12 hours of continuing education credit (9 general hrs + 3 category specific hrs) during the 3-year certification period. Lists of approved training meetings are published in this newsletter or are available on the Pesticide Safety Education web site which may be reached through a link on the KPN page - see top of page 1) Private applicator certification is also good for 3 years and is renewed by

attending a training session at the county extension office to become certified again. Do you know where your card is? If so, check the expiration date. If not, well ...

Label violations -- Use of a product on plants [or sites] no longer supported by the label or not following label instructions. Labels for many established pesticides have changed drastically over the past few years as a result of the EPA's reregistration program. Consequently, many uses for products, such as diazinon and malathion, have been eliminated. Some applicators may continue to buy and use products on plants [sites] that are no longer on the label. Reading the label before purchase and use is imperative.

Improper mixing -- Read compatibility statements and other directions carefully. Problems here can be due to prohibited tank mixes that cause interactions. Now, there can be plant reactions from combinations of certain classes of pesticides that are applied days, or even weeks, apart.

Failure to survey the site before applying a pesticide: This can range from overlooking or forgetting a sinkhole in a field to accidental spraying of the pet's water bowl or children's toys by a lawn care applicator.

Poor preparation for spills or other emergencies -- How many application rigs carry some soap, water, disposable towels, and an eyewash kit? Worker Protection Standards now are very specific about providing decontamination materials. Applicators should be familiar with how to handle spills of the pesticides they are transporting or applying.

Drift complaints -- Particle and/or vapor drift can result in off-target movement of a pesticide. Knowledge of product characteristics and attention to environmental conditions such as wind speeds or inversions will reduce the potential for problems. Be aware of sensitive nearby crops or plants.

Incomplete or missing records --

Private and commercial applicators must keep appropriate records of pesticide applications.

Spray tank not properly cleaned; applicator not familiar with tank's history -- This can lead to crop damage or illegal residues. Purchase of used spray equipment should include determining the types of products that had

been applied by the previous owner. Solvents in some EC formulations can serve as “tank cleaners”. This can result in inadvertent crop injury by the new owner.

Applicator makes erroneous product safety claims -- While there could be cases of “overselling ” a product, lack of familiarity with the label may be a major reason for unrealistic claims. Read beyond just the crop and rate information. Look critically for cautions or warnings, such as crop or variety sensitivity or effects of specific weather conditions on applications or product efficacy.

Failure to use required personal protective equipment -- Requirements are spelled out now and may even require specific types of gloves or spray suits. Use quality equipment and keep it clean and functional. Replace it as needed.

Attaining familiarity with product labels, technical bulletins, state and federal laws, and Material Safety Data Sheets, along with attention to details are keys to avoiding common pitfalls associated with pesticide applications.

Receiving The Fruit Facts Newsletter Electronically on the Internet

Fruit Facts is available electronically 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 University of Kentucky Listserve.

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Addressed to: listserv@lsv.uky.edu

Subject: Fruit Facts

Message: subscribe ky-fruitfacts,
followed by a blank line

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John G. Strang,
Extension Fruit & Vegetable Specialist