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THE BLUEBERRY BULLETIN

A Weekly Update to Growers



Visit the Blueberry Bulletin webpage: extension.rutgers.edu/blueberry-bulletin
 2026 Commercial Blueberry Pest Control Recommendations for New Jersey:
<https://njaes.rutgers.edu/pubs/publication.php?pid=E265>

Pest Management

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Insects

Moving forward, the IPM team will continue to monitor traps. Spotted-wing drosophila (SWD) trap captures have increased (Table 1) but, as harvest activities wrap-up, management will shift away from controlling SWD in the field. Sanitation by removing unharvested, culled, or overripe fruit from the field will help to reduce SWD pressure.

We are keeping a close eye on sharp-nosed leafhopper (SNLH) and scale traps, since this will be your next insecticide spray. Activity for both has increased (Table 2 and Table 3) but not significantly enough for treatment.

Trap Monitoring

Table 1. Spotted-Wing Drosophila and Blueberry Maggot Traps

	Spotted-Wing Drosophila				Blueberry Maggot			
	Atlantic County		Burlington County		Atlantic County		Burlington County	
	Avg	High	Avg	High	Avg	High	Avg	High
6/6	8.99	35	2.86	7	0.03	1	0	0



6/12	9.9	46	3.7	25	0	0	0	0
6/20	10.24	48	8.22	35	0	0	0	0
6/27	6.96	78	3.6	18	0	0	0	0
7/3	29.78	273	50.9	81	0.33	27	0	0
7/10	31.2	130	86.1	177	0.15	12	0	0
7/18	28.3	110	59.3	125	0.07	5	0.16	1
7/25	40.22	227	79.1	223	0.07	6	0.06	2
7/31	52.3	199	58.8	167	0.04	2	0.04	1
8/8	64.8	341	121	226	0.01	1	0	0

Table 2. Sharp-nosed Leafhopper and Oriental Beetle Traps

	Sharp-nosed Leafhopper				Oriental Beetle			
	Atlantic County		Burlington County		Atlantic County		Burlington County	
	Avg	High	Avg	High	Avg	High	Avg	High
6/6	1.42	16	1.25	7	5.78	35	2.57	14
6/12	0.56	12	4.8	46	62	340	47	170
6/20	0.88	6	1.44	12	411	2025	403	2025
6/27	0.77	9	0.37	2	243	2025	458	2025
7/3	1.5	15	0.55	2	466.7	2025	182.7	510
7/10	1.40	14	0.33	2	396	1970	393	2025
7/18	0.98	13	0	0	191.1	2025	235	1350
7/25	1.11	7	0.11	1	64.4	340	136.6	675
7/31	0.90	5	0.25	2	27.68	132	35.3	85
8/8	0.85	18	0.3	2	15.6	65	24.3	75

Table 3. Scale Traps

	Putnam Scale		Terrapin Scale	
	Avg	High	Avg	High
5/23	36.85	230	1.8	8
5/29	65.17	352	21.2	41
6/6	136.25	402	75.25	84
6/12	164	639	96	202
6/20	102	288	85	167
6/27	45	193	32	119
7/3	41.7	315	27.5	46
7/10	16.26	74	24.6	61
7/18	6.06	25	12	24
7/25	10.5	73	11	24
7/31	12.6	64	11.3	27
8/8	20.8	135	15.3	32



Diseases

Black Shadow

This past week, the IPM team monitored 141 fields for black shadow. Of the fields monitored, 43 had no black shadow present. In fields where black shadow was observed, the average incidence was approximately 25%, with one field reaching 100%.

These observations are important, as they indicate that new black shadow development is occurring in blueberry fields.

Recommendations for black shadow management are as follows (refer to the [2026 Rutgers Commercial Blueberry Guide](#)):

BLACK SHADOW MANAGEMENT ON BLUEBERRIES FOR NEW JERSEY Peter V. Oudemans, Rutgers University



Black shadow commonly known as sooty blotch is a widespread disease of the cultivated blueberry in New Jersey (Fig. 1). The symptoms generally appear as a discoloration of the stem, however, there are a number of different fungal species involved and each one produces consistent differences in symptomology (Fig. 2). At this stage we do not know which ones are the most destructive.

PESTS / WEEDS	REMARKS	MATERIALS	RATE/A
Black shadow	Apply fungicides once in late August- Early September and make a second application 30 days later.	Proline 480 SC Miravis Prime 3.34 SC Luna Tranquility 4.16 SC	5.7 fl. oz. 13.4 fl. oz. 27 fl. oz.