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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

Dr. Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Extension Specialist in Blueberry Entomology, Rutgers University

Dr. Janine Spies, IPM Agent – Fruit

Ms. Carrie Mansue, IPM Sr. Program Coordinator – Fruit

Insects

Activity of both sharp-nosed leafhopper and scale has increased (Tables 2 and 3). For sharp-nosed leafhopper management, target adults with post-harvest applications of neonicotinoids (Actara, Assail, or imidacloprid), Lannate, or Malathion. For scale management, target the second generation of crawlers with post-harvest applications of diazinon or pyriproxyfen (Esteem).

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
8/14	150	532	299	756	0	0	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
8/14	0.9	9	1	7	6.62	33	8	20

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
8/14	40.58	146	31.42	109

Diseases

Black Shadow Pressure

This past week, the IPM team monitored 129 fields for black shadow. Of those, 20 fields showed no signs of the disease. Among fields where black shadow was detected, the average incidence was approximately 40%, with one field reaching 100%.

These findings indicate that new black shadow development is occurring in blueberry fields, underscoring the importance of continued monitoring and timely disease management.

Recommendations for Sprays are as followed (2026 Rutgers Commercial Blueberry Guide):

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



BOOST BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION

Webinar series offers strategies
for commercial growers

Week 1 – September 8

Blueberry nutritional management to promote quality and productivity
Gerardo Nunez (University of Florida)

Week 2 – September 15

IPM Scouting Practices for Large- and Small-Scale Farms
Carrie Mansue (Rutgers University)

Week 3 – September 22

All I have learned about blueberry nutrition in the last 40 years
Gary Pavlis (Rutgers University)

Week 4 – September 29

Variety Selection & Grower Panel

- 30-minute presentation based on grower-preferred varieties
- Open discussion panel with blueberry growers from PA and NJ
Matt Macrie, Macrie Brothers Blueberry Farm (NJ)
Brandon Raso, Variety Farms (NJ)
Jesse King, Twin Springs Fruit Farm (PA)

COMMERCIAL BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION UPDATES WEBINAR SERIES

Tuesdays
September 8, 15, 22,
and 29
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



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