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**2010 Degree Day Accumulations**

(Temperature data provided by Jeff Franklin, AFHRC, Kentville)

Table 1.0 Degree day accumulations as of June 28, 2010 taken from Kentville weather data. Degree day accumulations are calculated using the single sine method and are based on a start date of January 1, 2010.

Category	2007	2008	2009	2010	5 year average
Plant development (Base 5°C)	573.9	611.4	629.2	696.7	626.1
Insect development (Base 10°C)	282.4	286.2	308.8	331.2	302.6

**Weather for June**

At times our memory can be long and at times short. I wonder how many producers can recall the 2006 growing season when the season started early, was warmer than average and everyone was worried about draught in March and then June arrived and the rains came. During June of 2006, 214 mm of rain fell at Kentville which compare to 182.5 as of June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The 48 year average for Kentville is 69 mm. Heat unit accumulations were also higher in 2006 with 686 (base 5° C) being recorded by June 26<sup>th</sup>. The other interesting thing about 2006 is that there was very little apple scab until the rains of June.

**Diseases**

**Apple Scab**

An additional two infection periods were recorded at Kentville during the past week. The first infection was the result of a 33 hour wetting period beginning at 4:00 pm on Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The average temperature during this wetting period was 17°C. The second infection period was a result of the 32 mm of rain which began at 7:00 am on Monday. The average temperature during this 28 hour wetting period was 15.5°C. Regardless of scab lesions not being present in

your orchards fungicide application will need to continue on into late July. These treatments will control the secondary fungal diseases sooty blotch, flyspeck and Brook's spot.

### **Powdery Mildew**

This fungus will continue to spread until terminal shoot growth shuts down which generally occurs in late July to early August. Select a fungicide from those listed in the spray guide. If using a Si or strobilurin fungicide remember to mix these products with an EDBC fungicide or Captan.

### **Brown Rot**

Sweet cherries have started to ripen and are susceptible to brown rot, especially during periods of wet weather which can cause fruit cracking. Select a fungicide from those listed in the stone fruit guide which can be found at [http://www.extensioncentral.com/eng/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=cat\\_view&gid=112&Itemid=32](http://www.extensioncentral.com/eng/index.php?option=com_docman&task=cat_view&gid=112&Itemid=32) . During periods of wet weather spray interval will need to be shortened to provide adequate protection. Remember to check the pre-harvest intervals when selecting a fungicide.

### **Fire Blight**

That point in the growing season has been reached when predicting infections is no longer required. Thanks to Dr. Gordon Braun and Eric Bevis of AAFC for running the prediction model. To date it would appear that growers were quite successful in controlling fire blight. I have only found a few strikes and have not heard of any major problems. I would however still encourage growers to continue to monitor their orchard block as shoot infection can still occur. Early detection of fire blight strike will make the task of containing its spread much easier.

### **Insect Activity**

#### **Codling Moth**

Those growers that applied an OP's for codling moth control should clean out their traps approximately 7 days after the treatment date. Continue to monitor for additional trap captures and if an additional 10 moths are caught a second treatment should be applied. Those growers that used one of the non OP products should have cleaned the traps out 10-14 days after the treatment date. The additional capture of 10 moths in these cleaned out traps would also warrant a second treatment.

#### **Apple Maggot**

In 2006 when there was similar heat unit accumulations the first maggot captures were reported for July 7<sup>th</sup>. Maggot traps have arrived and those growers that ordered traps from the NSFGA can pick them up. There is no need to hang them up this week however they should be placed in orchard blocks the latter part of next week.

Figure 1 = adult female Apple Maggot

Black Cherry Fruit Fly Cherry Fruit Fly



Figure 1

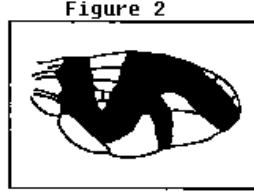


Figure 2

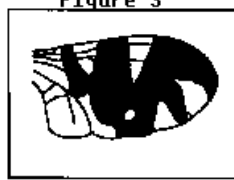


Figure 3

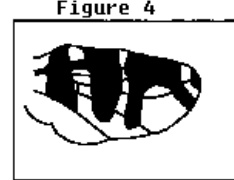


Figure 4

## Aphids

Continue to monitor for green and rosy apple aphid. It is questionable if a treatment for rosy apple aphid is of any economical value at this point in the growing season as most of the damage to the fruit has already occurred. Green aphid will however be around for most of the summer and if they move onto fruit cluster they can mark the fruit resulting in a down grading of the fruit at pack-out time. Do not forget to keep an eye out for aphids in new plantings and tree nurseries as vegetative growth can be affected by this pest.

## Mites

All stages of European red mite can now be found in orchard blocks. Two spotted and apple rust mite may also be present. Treatment and miticide selection should be based upon monitoring and the type of mites present. Do not let apple rust mite catch you by surprise as foliage bronzing from feed will reduce fruit colour.

## Pear Psylla

While checking a block of pears yesterday I did observe adults eggs and a few newly hatched nymphs. The population however was mainly eggs. In this block; treatment period would be later next week when the majority of eggs have hatched. If a treatment is required use one of the newer products such as Movento, Actara, Assail and Clutch as there is less of a chance that the local population of pear psylla has developed a resistance to these products.

## Horticulture

### Deer Control

This four legged pest is on the prowl and feeding on the new succulent shoot growth. Heavy deer browsing will stunt trees and needs to be controlled. The best deer control is an electric fence. The second line of defence is a small bar of soap hung about a meter from the ground (noise level of a deer, they are not as tall as a cow or horse). Application of Thiram 75 WP at 1.5-2.25 kg/1000 L will also work but it will need to be applied on regular bases especially after heavy rain so that there is a residue on the leaves will discourage feeding.

## **June Drop**

The June/July drop is under way and it will be another week or two before you can determine if hand thinning is required. There are some reports of over thinning. Quite often when you think you have over thinned there will be a nice crop at harvest time.

## **Peach Thinning**

The milder winter temperatures resulted in minor injury to peach bud and thus peach trees had a heavy bloom and set a heavy crop. The spring frost had little or no affect on fruit set. In order to obtain marketable fruit peach trees will need to be hand thinned as soon as possible. On limbs with a good fruit set the peaches should be spaced out to every 7 to 8 inches.

## **Weed and Grass Control**

With good soil moisture levels there is good grass and weed growth. A second flush of weed growth is under way and should be controlled. The window for glyphosate and 2, 4-D is closing as the pre-harvest interval for 2, 4-D is 80 days which would place it at September 18 as of today. Apply glyphosate to root suckers after mid July is also a risk as it may be moved down into the root systems with the movement of carbohydrates to the root system.

*Contributions and consultations were made in the preparation of this newsletter with the Orchard Outlook Committee*

*Editor: Bill Craig  
AgraPoint*