

# Cranberry

## Crop Management Newsletter

Volume XIII, Number 2, May 20, 1999

### NEW CRANBERRY TEAM MEMBERS

We welcome two new members to the research team working on cranberries. Dana Baumann will be working on a pesticide screening project this year to evaluate potential new pesticides that won't cause serious injury to cranberries yet will be effective in controlling insect, disease, or weed pests. Dana has a B.S. degree from UW-Stevens Point.

Carolyn Garvey has joined Dan Mahr's research team to work on the large scale demonstration of mating disruption on black headed fireworm. Much of this work will be conducted in Northern Wisconsin.

Both of these projects were funded through a consortium including Pesticide Use and Risk Reduction project money from UW-Madison (pesticide overcharge funds from the Dept. of Justice), Wisconsin Cranberry Board, Cranberry Institute and Ocean Spray. We hope you will welcome Dana and Carolyn on your marshes.

The more you can learn from the past, the less you will have to pay for the costly and painful process of trial and error. And deliberately throwing away experience from reliable sources is as foolish, if not more foolish, than deliberately throwing away tangibles.

*Richard L. Evans*

### Summer Meetings

Three meetings are planned for cranberry topics this summer. Youth Worker Safety Seminars will be held on Friday June 11. The first session will be held in the morning from 10:00 am until noon at the Russell Rezin & Son Marsh in Warrens (along CTY EW). The second session will be held at the Lake Dexter County Park in Dexterville from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. These seminars are intended for middle school and high school aged youth who will be working on marshes during the summer. Topics on the agenda include large equipment safety, small equipment safety, and environmental safety. Chips, soda, etc. will be available at the end of each session (we know how to attract young people!). A flyer for this meeting is enclosed. In order to plan for the numbers attending, please either send in the tear off slip or call the WSCGA office so that we can get a tentative count of attendance.

A New Cranberry Grower IPM Workshop will be held on Tuesday June 22 at Valley Corporation at Valley Junction (Hwy 173 & CTY N). This workshop is intended for new cranberry growers who are new to the industry and who have not been able to contract with an IPM scouting service. The material will be suited for new growers and not for growers or managers who have been

in the industry for more than a few years. The curriculum is essentially the same as for 1998, so growers who attended last year should not register for 1999. Registration is limited to 50 people so that the field training will be personal enough to be of value.

There is a registration fee of \$20.00 per person to cover the cost of materials used or distributed during the day and for lunch.

Send in your registration to the Wood County Extension office by June 15 to register for the workshop.

## IPM AND WISCONSIN CRANBERRY GROWERS

Have you ever seen the majestic redwood groves? Did you know that the root system of a giant redwood tree is very shallow? I find it amazing to discover that the redwood tree is normally found in groves because they support each other. The root system is entangled in such a way that they weather many storms together. Seldom do we see a redwood tree thrive on its own.

I use this analogy because it is very important to our industry today for you to understand that you are not alone in the day to day decision making. Let's talk about IPM in cranberry. IPM means integrated pest management, covering insects, weeds and diseases. Pest management procedures developed in our programs improve the timing of pest controls to coincide with crucial parts of the pest lifecycle. As pest managers our goal is to offer options for control. We believe that cultural practices like sanding pruning, mowing along with chemical measures can and will control

our pests without economic loss. Biological controls are encouraged when the opportunity presents itself. We have Bt products, nematodes, mating disruption and more products on the horizon.

We are hearing rumors of cutting rates, reducing applications and halting fungicide programs because the price of our product is down and we are trying to save money. Listen, IPM is more important right now than ever before. Our whole philosophy has been, and always will be, timing the applications appropriately so that we not NOT have to use more and more products. We, as an industry, are proud of our specialty crop and want it to be the best it can be for the consumer. Let's think through this thoroughly before taking steps. There are practical steps that can be taken to save money.

First, let's get the best out of the pesticides we use. Time your insecticide applications in such a way that you do not wash the product off with rain, irrigation or frost protection. Try to get a good 8 to 12 hours of drying time. Watch the water pH for pesticide mixtures. The following table shows some examples to take note of.

Table 1. Effective half-life of pesticide mixtures at different water pH.

Product	pH	Half-life
Orthene	9	3 days
	7	46 days
	5	55 days
Sevin	9	24 hours
	8	2-4 days
	7	24-30 days
	6	100-150 days
Diazinon	8	8 weeks
	7	10 weeks
	6	8 weeks
	5	2 weeks

My point is to please check with your chemical representatives on which pH is the best for whichever product you are using. As you see from these few examples it does make a difference, and it is not always a lower water pH that is necessary (Diazinon). Let's try our hardest to use what we have in the most cost-effective manner. We are here for you in the rough times as well as the good times.

Jayne Sojka, Lady Bug IPM

## ORGANOPHOSPHATE PRELIMINARY RISK ASSESSMENTS:

EPA is in the process of releasing the preliminary risk assessments for all the organophosphates. You can check the status of any of the OP's on EPA's website: <http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/op/>.

EPA is seeking comments on these products. The website can give you the specific timelines for commenting on specific products. It is important that users of these products provide comments to EPA because others will be commenting on why these products should not be allowed to remain on the market. That perspective needs a reality check - are the products important to agriculture or public health? If so, why? What would be the impact of the loss of uses? This information is important for EPA to know and consider as they make decisions. Right now time is of the essence. Many different groups are in the process of generating critical data regarding use of products. We must insist on realism in the risk assessment process. EPA must be basing decisions on real rather than theoretical risk.

**Coalitions** - The Implementation Working Group (IWG) is a broad-based coalition of affected stakeholders working on issues related to FQPA implementation. IWG has representation from growers, commodity groups, food processors, registrants, non-ag users, public health, chemical manufacturers,

and others who use pesticides. IWG has drafted the "Road Map", a science-based, workable framework for implementing the FQPA. The Road Map addresses all of the critical science policies addressed by the Tolerance Reassessment Advisory Committee (TRAC).

**Two New Bills Introduced** - On March 25, 1999, Representative La Hood introduced a bill HR 1334 "The FQPA Implementation Act of 1999". This bill requires EPA to do a public impact assessment on proposed actions and also requires or allows the development of additional data before so modifying, revoking, or suspending a tolerance.

On April 28th, a second bill was introduced, "The Regulatory Fairness and Openness Act of 1999" (HR1592). This bill was introduced by Representative Pombo of California. There were 22 cosponsors - 11 Democrats and 11 Republicans. Representative Gary Condit of California was a cosponsor. This bill will provide direction to the EPA on how to fully implement the FQPA in accordance with the original intent of Congress. You can see a copy of this bill, background information, and a current list of co-sponsors, click HR 1592 Bill Summary and Status.

The legislation will:

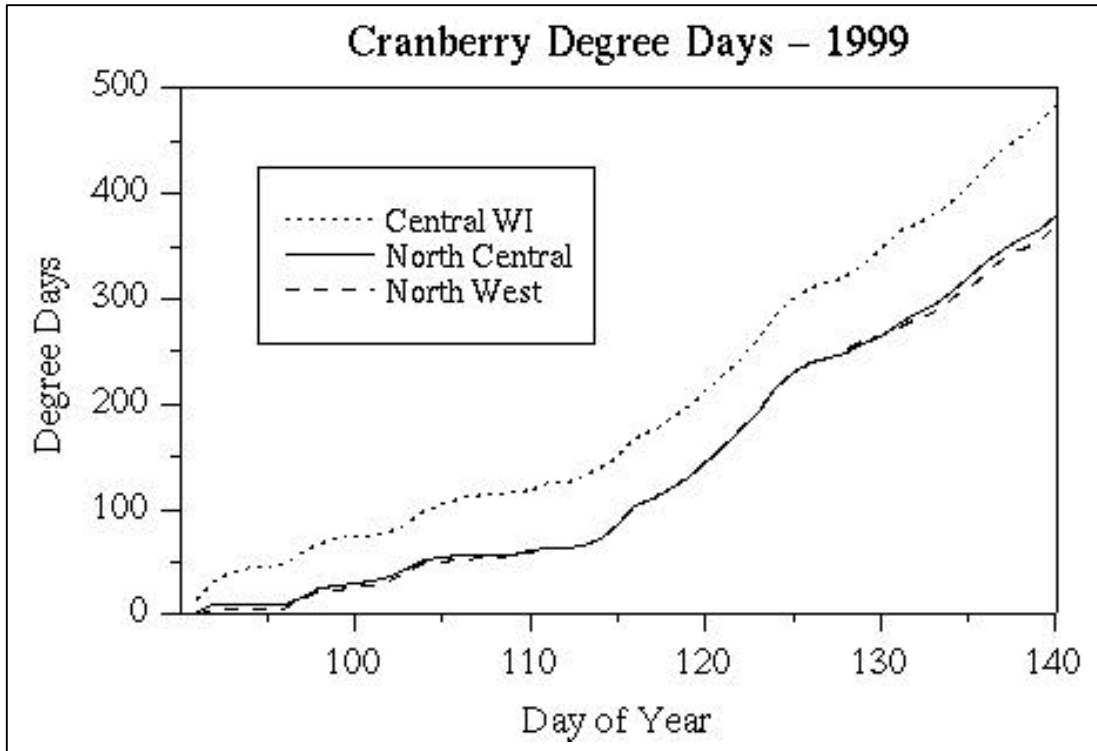
- Lessen the likelihood that effective pesticide products used by growers and other pest control users will be removed from the market unnecessarily,
- Provide for the smooth transition from provision of the prior law to the provisions of FQPA, which require new science policies and more pesticide use and exposure data,
- Provide for a transparent and predictable regulatory process, based on reliable data and sound science, for the review of pesticide food tolerances, and
- Establish a permanent Pesticide Advisory Committee to provide advice to the EPA and USDA on the regulation and registration of pesticides.

For additional information, please contact Cindy Baker at Gowan Company.

Source:

[http://www.gowanco.com/FQPA\\_current.htm](http://www.gowanco.com/FQPA_current.htm)

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