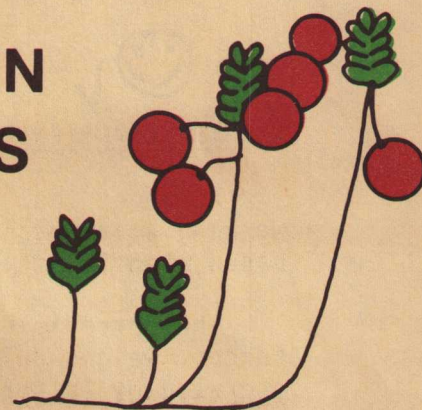


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## WISCONSIN CRAN TIPS



April, 1985

DEAR WISCONSIN CRANBERRY GROWER:

Barring any unforeseen printing problems, this copy of Cran Tips should now and henceforth be in "living" color. If nothing else it should help all of us find it in the "pile" on our desks? The earliness of the growing season in 1985, at least as of late April has certainly created a "crunch" for all of us in getting our field work underway. Perhaps those of you in the south central cranberry areas are in the same situation?

Thanks to many of our coworkers, this issue will include notes of interest concerning pest control, etc. They were prepared to be timely as of late April; some of the info may no longer be timely for some of you, however, since we have an apparent difference in plant development of 2+ weeks from southern to northern WI. The difference is quite apparent in Growing Degree Days (GDD), as published in the Wisconsin Dept. of Ag's Crop Weather Report of April 21. Northern district GDD's ranged from 91-98 GDD to 167 GDD for south central WI. The 30 year normals for this date would range from 40-80 for these same areas.

### WATCH FOR EARLY INSECT ACTIVITY

With the warm weather and (so far) early spring, expect early activity by insects. Most importantly, check for hatch of first generation black-headed fireworm in areas where infestations have occurred in recent years. Egg hatch may be as much as 1 - 2 weeks early this year. Blackheaded fireworm insecticides should be applied within 7 - 10 days following first egg hatch, before the young larvae start webbing together.

D. L. Mahr

### AMMONIUM N PREFERRED FOR ALL WI CRANBERRIES

The original study which showed the importance of an ammonium source for the nitrogen nutrition of cranberry used only the 'Stevens' cultivar. Our recent studies using the cultivars 'Ben Lear,' 'McFarlin,' 'Crowley,' 'Stevens' and 'Searles,' showed that these five cranberry cultivars are responding alike in their utilization of ammonium-nitrogen. There was a difference in vigor, but rate of ammonium nitrogen absorption was not different among the cranberry cultivars. Like the original study, none of the cultivars will readily absorb or utilize nitrate as a source of nitrogen, which is in contrast to most other horticultural and agronomic crops.

L. A. Peterson

cont...





#### FOR THE CRANBERRY GROWER WHO HAS EVERYTHING (ALMOST)

A gadget that sounds an alarm when a person falls asleep while driving, working at night, or doing guard duty is available from Xanadu, a Jerusalem based high tech firm.

The optronic device, which is currently in use by the Israel Defense Forces, weighs only 16 grams. It attaches easily to eyeglass frames and is operated by batteries that last more than 700 hours.

The batteries power a sensor that signals alarm sounds when the eyelids are closed for more that 4/10's of a second.

For more information, contact Xanadu Ltd., P.O. Box 4503, Jerusalem 91044, Israel, Tel. (02) 634973.

Editor's note: How about this for those long nighttime frost watches? Or perhaps Tod Planer might order a bunch of these for use during those long slide talks at Cranberry School?

#### INSECTICIDE ORTHENE REGISTERED FOR CRANBERRY USE

Orthene 75S insecticide has received EPA registration for use on cranberries for control of fireworms, spanworms, and sparganthis fruitworm. The active ingredient in this Ortho product is acephate. The formulation is a 75% water soluble powder. It is registered for use at 1 1/3 lb/acre, and can be applied by air (minimum of 2 gal. water per acre), ground equipment, or sprinklers. It can only be used once per growing season. There is a 90 day spray-to-harvest interval, which pretty much limits use to one pre-blossom spray per year. It is not registered for use after fruit set because some samples have indicated altered flavor of processed berries.

In 1980, we evaluated Orthene in small plot studies and found it to be an excellent material for fireworm and spanworm control. However, one concern is that water-soluble pesticides frequently have reduced effectiveness when applied through the sprinkler system. The reason for this is because of the relatively large amounts of water necessary for pesticide delivery by irrigation equipment. In our small plot evaluations, the materials were applied from a hand sprayer. If you consider applying Orthene through the sprinkler system, do so only on limited acreage until we gather more experience with the product.

Orthene is a systemic organo-phosphate insecticide. Its oral LD50 is about 800 - 1000, while its dermal LD50 is >10,000, which makes it considerably less toxic than parathion and Guthion, and somewhat less toxic than Sevin and Lorsban.

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Because cranberries are a new and small market, availability of Orthene will probably be limited in 1985.

D. L. Mahr

#### LOOK FOR DODDER EARLY

Those of you who had dodder in your Marsh last season will want to get ready to apply controls early this year. The recommended treatment is dichlobenil (Casoron) at 1 lb a.i./A (25 lb. of the 4% granules) before emergence. Dodder will begin to emerge when the average soil temperature at a depth of 1 in. is around 50 F. The average soil temperature at this depth will follow the average air temperature with a lag period of about 5 days. In a normal year dodder will begin to emerge around May 15 in the WI Rapids area. With the warm temperatures we've had already this spring, this may occur much earlier this year. The best thing to do is to scout those areas which had dodder last year and look for the first signs of the emerging seedlings. Dodder seedlings are very small, thread-like, greenish yellow, and have no leaves. If treatment is made at the first signs of emergence, economic damage can be avoided. If those of you who have dodder would send me a postcard, I would like to visit so that I can survey the extent of the dodder infestation in the state, as well as the different species present.

My address is: Tom Bewick, Department of Horticulture, 1575 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706, TEL: (608) 262-4326.

#### SUMMER FIELD DAY - AUGUST 7, 1985

The WCGA program committee met recently with Tod Planer, Dave Holcomb, Jackson County Extension Agent, and myself to develop plans for the Cranberry Summer Field Day.

Date for the field day is August 7. The Steve Gebharts, Route 1, Warrens have generously offered to host the event at the former Otto Beltz marsh. In addition to the WCGA's annual meeting, field tours and industry commercial exhibits will be featured. Potential exhibitors will shortly receive a letter with details and are asked to contact Doug Rezin, WCGA President, 1918A Cranberry Lane, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494, not the host, concerning exhibit arrangements.

Be sure to note August 7 on your calendar. Further details later in Cran Tips.

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### EARLY GRASS CONTROL FOR NON-BEARING CRANBERRIES

Fusilade 2000 is registered for grass control in non-bearing cranberry beds up to one year before harvest. Fusilade 2000 contains one lb. of active ingredient in one gallon of product. It should be used at the rate of 3 1/4 cups per acre (approximately 1 1/2 pints). To be effective Fusilade 2000 must be combined with crop oil concentrate at 1% of the finished spray volume (1 quart/25 gallons) or a non-ionic surfactant at .25% of finished spray volume (1/2 pint per 25 gallons).

Fusilade 2000 will control sicklegrass, bluejointgrass, barnyardgrass, rattlesnakegrass, panicgrass and muskratgrass. It will not control sedge species.

For spot sprays use Fusilade 2000 at 1.5 fluid ounces per gallon of water plus 0.5 fluid ounce of non-ionic surfactant.

M. N. Dana

### NEW PUBLICATIONS

Cranberry Production in the Pacific Northwest, PNW 247 contains color pictures and information on West Coast cranberry production. A well written reference publication. Price: \$7.50, available from Coastal Washington Research and Extension Unit, Route 1, Box 570, Long Beach, WA 98631.

### SMILE ...

Ad from a farm publication: "Bachelor, with farm, wishes to meet widow with tractor. Object matrimony. Please sent photo of tractor."

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Prepared by:

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