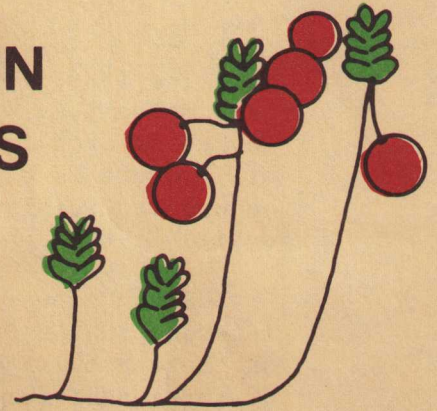


WISCONSIN CRAN TIPS



April, 1986

DEAR CRANBERRY GROWER:

Early signs of spring as of late March suggest the possibility for a repeat of 1986's early and long growing season. One doesn't need long experience with Wisconsin weather to be a bit skeptical, however.

Thanks to funding by the Wisconsin Cranberry Grower's Association, we can continue Cran Tips for 1986. We appreciate the opportunity to keep in touch with you. As before, we'll send out Cran Tips on as-needed basis through the growing season. We wish each of you a most successful season!

Belt Tightening and Beyond . . .

In the interest of keeping you informed, a few comments regarding effects of real or proposed state and federal budget cuts on UW agricultural programs seems in order. Although on campus teaching has highest priority, teaching, research, and Extension programs will be affected. Faculty staffing has already been impacted in that a hiring freeze means any retirees will not be replaced in the immediate future.

Proposed federal budget cuts for 1987 and beyond will have even greater potential impact. The current proposed presidential budget, in addition to Gramm-Rudman legislated cutbacks, if retained by Congress would for example reduce UW Cooperative Extension budgets sufficiently to require elimination of 130 faculty (full time equivalent) positions at the UW by fiscal year 1987. The effects on state and county Extension educational programs would be greater than any that have occurred in the history of agriculture in the U.S. in this century. Congressional action will determine later this year what actually happens.

One purpose of this discussion is to provide you, the cranberry growers of Wisconsin a pat on the back for your support of research. Because of your industry's support, cranberry research in 1986-87 in Wisconsin will continue as before. My congratulations and thanks on behalf of all our researchers for your foresight!

IPM IN 1986

UW-Extension is initiating a pilot Cranberry Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program in central Wisconsin in 1986. Due to budget constraints and lack of sufficient grower interest the program will not be offered in the northern area. If there is grower interest and federal IPM funding in 1987, we expect there will be a program in both the central and northern regions next year.

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The 1986 program will involve weekly scouting visits, control recommendations by extension specialists as needed (not the scout), and a review of crop fertility based on soil and tissue analysis. A feature for all growers is a toll free 800 phone number, with current pest information to be updated weekly. The 800 number will be in the next issue of CranTips and available through County Extension offices in late April.

Seven growers in the Wisconsin Rapids/Warrens area have expressed an interest in the Cranberry IPM program. Depending on the number of acres each of these growers plans to enroll, space may still be available for a maximum of three additional growers. We are accepting grower names on a waiting list for the central region until April 18. For more information contact: Roseann Kachadoorian (608) 262-3227 or 262-6444.

TEENY WEENY T-BONES?

Apparently, owls, yellow weasels and snakes are high in demand as delicacies in southern China, according to Vole Control Update, Vol 1, Winter, 1986. The result has been a population explosion of rats and mice causing great damage and losses of grain crops.

The solution? According to the publication, the result is a request by the government to add rat and mouse dishes to the menu. Thus, if you order "Sweet and Sour Shu" you will be served honey and lemon dipped rodent. No doubt Chinese chefs will create other imaginative dishes as a result of the government program.

IN SEARCH OF CRANBERRY COTTONBALL DISEASE

At the winter cranberry school, we discussed initiating a research program on the cranberry cottonball disease caused by the fungus Monilinia oxycocci. In addition to establishing field plots in several locations that have histories of cottonball incidence, we would like to visit as many sites in the state as possible that have a cottonball outbreak this season. If you detect the tip blight stage in early summer or the cottonball stage this fall, please notify us. Contact either Steve Jeffers (608-262-6241) or Peter Sanderson (608-263-2093), Department of Plant Pathology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706. Thanks!

WEED CONTROL NOTES

Sethoxydim (Poast) is now labelled for grass control in cranberries not closer than 1 year before harvest. This herbicide must be used with crop oil or non-ionic surfactant to be effective. It does not control sedges nor does it work on Kentucky bluegrass or Canada bluegrass. New plantings with barnyardgrass, ticklegrass, sicklegrass, crabgrass and/or other seedling grasses are the proper place to use this herbicide. The rate for best results is 0.5 pounds of active ingredient per acre (approximately 1.5 quarts of the formulated material per acre). The material is very effective for grass control but may not be used closer than one year before harvest of a crop of fruit. Read and follow label directions.

White violets (lance leaved white violets, Viola lanceolata L.) may be suppressed with dichlobenil (Casoron or Norosac) at 4 pounds active ingredient per acre. This rate of herbicide will cause damage to the cranberry vines. Be prepared to fertilize the cranberries in the treated area with extra ammonium nitrogen in early June to minimize the amount of injury to the

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vines. Applications of granules for white violet control should be restricted to those areas where the violets have become competitive. Do not risk injury to an entire section in the attack on a small area of violets.

White clover (Trifolium repens) may be treated with norflurazon (Evital) in the early spring. A rate of 4 pounds active ingredient per acre should be used (80 pounds per acre of 5% Evital granules). This rate of herbicide may cause cranberry vine damage that will reduce the crop for this year.

M. N. Dana

LOOK FOR DODDER SEEDLINGS!

It may only be a matter of one or two weeks before dodder seedlings begin to emerge in Wisconsin marshes. In 1985 emergence occurred in the Babcock area as early as April 17. Apply the recommended herbicides when emergence FIRST begins. Our data shows that this will occur after the average air temperature has been about 50°F for a period of about one week.

I would also like to remind those of you who have ARAX weather stations in place that I, as well as other researchers at the university, would be interested in obtaining some of the weather information that you are gathering. I am trying to establish a predictive model for dodder emergence, which would help with scheduling herbicide applications. I am most interested in soil and air temperature data. I also need to know the depth at which you are measuring the soil temperature. If you have dodder in some part of your marsh this information would be most helpful. In addition to the weather data it is necessary for me to know the date of first dodder emergence. If you can supply this information, it would be very helpful to the modeling effort. Please contact me at the Horticulture Department address given below or at call (608) 262-4326.

Tom Bewick

AERIAL APPLICATION OF DIFOLATAN FOR 1986

Aerial application of Difolatan (captafol) requires that less water be used in spraying than is specified on the product label. This constitutes "use of a registered pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its labeling" and, therefore, is a violation of FIFRA rules unless certain conditions are met. Under certain conditions, Cooperative Extension service specialists have the authority to recommend concentrate pesticide application, which uses less dilution with water than the label specifies, if they are willing to accept full legal responsibility for such recommendations or the results from following these recommendations. This is the option that has been pursued in previous seasons.

In 1986, I have decided to pursue a different option to formalize the aerial application situation and to avoid any possible liability against the University Cooperative Extension, or myself. Currently, Chevron Chemical Company, with my support, is seeking a 24(c) registration for the aerial application of Difolatan on cranberry beds in Wisconsin. Similar registrations are already in effect in Massachusetts and New Jersey. This is a "special local needs" registration that will be good for a maximum of 5 years. During this time, it is expected that Chevron will revise its national label for Difolatan to specifically include aerial application to

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cranberry beds. The 24(c) must be approved by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. We foresee no immediate problems with this registration; however, aerial application must be postponed until registration is approved. If questions arise or clarification is needed, please contact me at 608-262-6241.

Steve Jeffers

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The following publications are available from the Cranberry Experiment Station, P. O. Box 569, East Wareham, MA 02538.

Major Cranberry Insect Pests - IPM fact sheet
Sherri L. Roberts and Charles F. Brodel \$3.00

The Southern Red Mite - IPM fact sheet
Sherri L. Roberts and Charles F. Brodel \$1.50

The Blackheaded Fireworm - IPM fact sheet
Sherri L. Roberts and Charles F. Brodel \$1.50

The Cranberry Weevil - IPM fact sheet
Charles F. Brodel and Sherri L. Roberts \$1.50

The Cranberry Fruitworm - IPM fact sheet
Charles F. Brodel and Sherri L. Roberts \$1.50

Spring and Fall Frost Tolerances - IPM fact sheet
Sherri L. Roberts and Irving E. Demoranville \$1.50

The price includes postage and handling. Make checks payable to U-MASS Activity Account #320046.

SMILE . . .

Next to being shot at and missed, nothing is really quite as satisfying as an income tax refund.

-F. J. Raymond

Isn't it strange? The same people who laugh at gypsy fortunetellers take economists seriously.

-Cincinnati Enquirer

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