Maine Cranberry Keeping Quality Forecast (2017)

With 16 possible points to be awarded for the season, using weather conditions from the NWS for Bangor and Caribou, **Bangor got 7 of them** and **Caribou got only 4!** Use the following table to see what forecast those point totals translate to:

Maine Cranberry Keeping Quality Forecast Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points Awarded</th>
<th>Keeping Quality</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAXIMUM POSSIBLE POINTS = 16</strong></td>
<td>(The ‘expected’ keeping quality of the fruit in the absence of any steps to manage fruit rot)</td>
<td>(What to do)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 2</td>
<td>VERY POOR</td>
<td>Be very careful with your fungicide use, particularly in a fresh-fruit situation, as fruit quality will be sacrificed if you reduce your fungicide sprays. Be especially conservative in any beds that were not sprayed with fungicide the previous year, or that had significant rot or scald (especially Stevens if they were scalded).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 or 4</td>
<td>POOR</td>
<td>You should use full recommended rates and numbers of applications for fruit rot fungicides. However, if you held Late Water, fungicide inputs ‘may’ be reduced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 or 6</td>
<td>FAIR TO GOOD</td>
<td>You should probably not reduce your fungicide rates and/or the number of fungicide applications. (If Late Water was held, you can reduce your fungicide inputs in that situation.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 or 8</td>
<td>GOOD</td>
<td>Can ‘probably’ spray a fungicide just once and no more than twice (definitely spray no more than twice if you used a Late Water flood)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 to 11</td>
<td>VERY GOOD TO EXCELLENT</td>
<td>Can ‘probably’ eliminate your fungicide applications or spray no more than once (definitely eliminate if you used a Late Water flood)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 to 16</td>
<td>EXCEPTIONAL</td>
<td>Can ‘probably’ eliminate your fungicide applications (definitely eliminate if you used a Late Water flood)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

★ Anytime you have a bed that had excessive rot or a very large crop the previous year, suffered severe drought stress during either of the previous two years, or had leaf drop in the spring of the current year, then you should not reduce your fungicide sprays, regardless of a ‘FAIR’ or ‘GOOD’ forecast model.

★ In general, ‘cool and dry’ work to the crop’s advantage with regards to fruit rot levels (fruit rot fungi like it ‘hot and humid’), but if there’s a drought, the plants will be stressed such that they are more vulnerable to rot.

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Factors affecting how points are awarded for the keeping quality forecast. (Franklin and Cross. 1948)

1) If the total of sunshine hours from previous year is less than the 50-year average of 2,274 hours [4 points]

2) If the total sunshine hours for March (Massachusetts uses Feb.) for the present year is less than the 50-year average for that month (143 hr) [1 point]

3) If the total of sunshine hours for April (Massachusetts uses March) for the present year is more than the 50-year average for that month (179 hr) [2 points]

4) If the total precipitation for April (Massachusetts uses March) for the present year is less than the average of East Wareham and Middleboro mean of 4.39 inches [1 point]

5) If the average temperature for April (Massachusetts uses March) of the present year is below the threshold of 34°F [2 points]

6) If the average temperature for May (Massachusetts uses April) for the present year is below the threshold of 44°F [2 points]

7) If the total precipitation for May (Massachusetts uses April) for the present year is less than the average of East Wareham and Middleboro (6.70 inches) [1 point]

8) If the average temperature for June (Massachusetts uses May) for the present year at Middleboro is below the threshold of 52°F [2 points]

9) If the total precipitation for June (Massachusetts uses May) for the present year is less than the average of East Wareham and Middleboro (3.20 inches) [1 point]

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE POINTS: 16

For conditions at Bangor and Caribou:

1) Bangor: 1,938 hours → 4 points
   Caribou: 2,269 hours → 2 points
   (compromised with Caribou because so close)

2) Bangor: 130 hours → 1 point
   Caribou: 156 hours → 0 points

3) Bangor: 134 hours → 0 points
   Caribou: 153 hours → 0 points

4) Bangor: 3.98” → 1 point
   Caribou: 3.86” → 1 point

5) Bangor: 45.7°F → 0 points
   Caribou: 41.2°F → 0 points

6) Bangor: 52.6°F → 0 points
   Caribou: 52.7°F → 0 points

7) Bangor: 6.36” → 1 point
   Caribou: 4.37” → 1 point

8) Bangor: 63.5°F → 0 points
   Caribou: 61.9°F → 0 points

9) Bangor: 4.32” → 0 points
   Caribou: 4.39” → 0 points

Total points out of 16 that are possible:
Bangor = 7 (GOOD) / (good keeping quality)
Caribou = 4 (POOR) / (poor keeping quality)