Greetings and Happy New Year

While we chase grants and prepare for upcoming meetings, here are some items to consider for adding to your 2012 calendar.

**Upcoming Meetings**

1) **Maine State Pomological Society winter meeting** at the Maine Ag Trade Show
   **Wednesday, January 11, Augusta Civic Center**
   - 8:30–9 Registration
   - 9 – 10 Business meeting/Election of officers
   - 10 – 10:15 Break
   - 10:15 – 10:45 **Good Agricultural Practices, Grant Update** – Linda Titus, AgMatters LLC.
   - 10:45 – 11:30 **Does Climate Change in Maine Affect Apple Growers?**
     – Ivan Fernandez, UMaine School of Forest Resources, and Climate Change Institute.
   - 11:30 – 12 **Making Your Own Pest Management Plan**
     – Glen Koehler, UMaine Extension.
   - 12 – 12:30 **Meeting Industry Needs**, a member discussion
     One pesticide applicator recertification credit.
   Also at the Trade Show: **Apple IPM Update** at 1pm. One recertification credit.

2) **Risk Management/Crop Insurance Discussions for Orchardists**
   Are Orchardists’ Risk Management Plans Adequate for 2012? Gene Gantz, representing the USDA Risk Management Agency, from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, will be in NH to discuss apple and peach crop insurance options. This is an opportunity to discuss the pros and cons of Apple and Peach Crop Insurance for orchards here in the Northeast. Express your ideas on these insurance programs at this meeting.

   Three discussions will be held: at the UNH CE County Offices on January 11 (Brentwood) and January 12 (Boscawen and Goffstown). Preregistration is required. For more information and to register, contact Marlene Turcotte at marlene.turcotte@unh.edu as soon as possible (registration deadline was January 6 but they might let you register on Monday Jan. 8).
3) **Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association Annual Convention**
January 31-February 2, 2012, Greenwich, Nova Scotia
Tree fruit growers in Nova Scotia and the other Maritime provinces will gather at the Old Orchard Inn in Greenwich, Nova Scotia to share ideas, learn about new production methods, hear about trends and make buying decisions about products, services and equipment. This year’s theme is "Growing our Farms: Production Innovations and Efficiencies."
Visit the NSFHA website for more information: [http://www.nsapples.com/intrnsfg.htm](http://www.nsapples.com/intrnsfg.htm)

4) **Maine Preseason Apple Grower Meeting.**
**March 14, Highmoor Farm, Monmouth Maine.**
8:30–9 Coffee, Meet and Greet
– Glen Koehler, UMaine Extension.
9:30–10:15 *Dealing with Brown Marmorated Stink Bug in the MidAtlantic*  
– Starker Wright, USDA-Ag Research Service, Kearneysville, WV.
– Growers
11–11:15 Break
11:15–11:45 *Horticultural Updates* – Renae Moran, UMaine Extension.
12:15–12:45 Buffet Lunch
12:45–1:30 *New Methods for Managing Plum Curculio, Apple Maggot, and Dogwood Borer*  
– Starker Wright
1:30–2:15 *IPM Updates and Developing Your Own Orchard Management Plan*  
– Glen Koehler
2:15–2:30 Break
2:30–2:45 *Crop insurance update* – David Handley, Tori Jackson, UMaine Cooperative Extension
2:45–3:30 *Board of Pesticides Control Update* – Gary Fish. Maine Department of Agriculture  
3 pesticide applicator recertification credits

5) **Marketing for Profits: Tools for Success** - Farm Marketing Webinars  
Marketing encompasses a broad array of efforts all aimed at identifying your market and customers, satisfying your customers and maintaining your customers long term. It includes all marketing channel selections and business decisions, what to grow or produce and how it will be produced. Marketing is complex and is often the most misunderstood and least successful part of many farm businesses.
These webinars have been designed with the assistance of regional and national marketing experts to provide critical marketing insights for farmers and farm markets throughout the northeast. The webinar schedule is as follows:

**Who Dat? Assessing Your Own Identity**  
January 10, 10am – 11:30am OR  
January 12, 7pm – 8:30pm
What’s Out There? Exploring Marketing Channels
   February 7, 10am – 11:30am OR
   February 9, 7pm – 8:30pm

Where are We and Where do we Want to be?
   February 21, 10am – 11:30am OR
   February 23, 7pm – 8:30pm

   To register for the webinars or for more information, email Diane Eggert at
deggert@nyfarmersmarket.com.

6) Maine State Pomological Society Summer Meeting and Orchard Tour
Thursday, July 19, 2012 at Pie Tree Orchards
   The summer meeting will include a tour led by Scott Miller on the interesting things going
on at Pie Tree Orchard, including production of both IPM and Organic apples. More
information as date approaches. For directions and more information on Pie Tree Orchard, see
http://pietreeorchard.com/about_us.html
   Featured speaker is Dr. David Rosenberger of the Cornell University Hudson Valley Lab.
Dr. Rosenberger will give two talks on "Apple Disease Control Challenges for the Next Decade",
and "Will Societal Changes Create New Opportunities or Only More Problems for Fruit Growers?"

7) 2012 International Fruit Tree Association Study Tour to Quebec, Canada
   The 2012 Study Tour is tentatively planned for late July and will center on the area south
of Montreal. It is a rare opportunity for an IFTA tour to be within driving distance. Folks who
have attended previous tours around the world report that they are very educational and
inspiring.

Soil Testing Discount

   The fee for the standard soil test at the Maine Soil Testing Service is reduced to $12 (from
$15) for samples submitted from January 1 to March 1 each year. See
http://anlab.umesci.maine.edu/ for more information and to request sample boxes and forms.
Pyrethroid Insecticide Risk Assessment

From EPA Pesticide Program Updates: “Pyrethrins/Pyrethroid Cumulative Risk Assessment Confirms Safety of Current Uses; Supports Consideration of New Uses”

EPA's recently completed cumulative risk assessment indicates that exposures from the many current uses of pyrethrins and pyrethroid insecticides do not pose risk concerns for children or adults. Further, the cumulative assessment supports consideration of registering additional new uses of these pesticides. EPA therefore is issuing this final pyrethrins/pyrethroid cumulative risk assessment and requesting comment, including information that may be used to further refine the assessment. Once the agency completes and approves pyrethroid single chemical assessments, it is likely that new uses of these pesticides will be added, providing tools that may alleviate challenging new pest management situations such as the invasive stink bug and bed bugs.

The use of pyrethrins and the pyrethroids has increased during the past decade with the declining use of organophosphate pesticides, which are more acutely toxic to people and wildlife than the pyrethroids. In 2009, EPA identified the pyrethroid chemicals as having a common mechanism of toxicity and has now completed a human health cumulative risk assessment for all uses of the pyrethrins and pyrethroids.

EPA's screening level cumulative assessment considers all registered uses of pyrethrins and pyrethroids and includes exposure from food, drinking water and residential settings through oral, dermal and inhalation routes of exposure. The agency considers this cumulative risk assessment to be highly conservative because it assumes that people are going to be exposed to the highest levels of residues in food, water, and in their homes all on the same day. For example, in estimating residential exposure the assessment assumed no dissipation of the chemicals, all individuals were exposed on the day of application, and exposure for each scenario occurred as a result of the pyrethroid with the highest risk estimate registered for that scenario. The assessment also assumed co-occurrence of certain residential scenarios as worst-case situations. Even using these very conservative assumptions that likely overestimate exposure to pyrethrins and pyrethroids, estimated risks to both adults and children are well below the agency’s level of concern.

For additional information on Assessing Pesticide Cumulative Risk, visit http://epa.gov/pesticides/cumulative/commonMech_groups.htm

IPM Mandated in European Union by 2014

A European Union law passed in 2009 mandates that all member states must ensure that users of pesticides have available and use all information necessary for the implementation of IPM including “tools for pest monitoring and decision making, as well as advisory services on integrated pest management” by January 1, 2014. Interested parties are working to figure out definitions and implementation plans to meet the 2014 deadline.
Apple Canning Factsheets

Bulletin #4035, Let’s Preserve Apples
http://extension.umaine.edu/publications/4035e/

Let’s Preserve: Fruit Pie Fillings
http://extension.umaine.edu/publications/4038e/

List of other Extension Canning Fact Sheets
http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/ePOS/form=item.html&item=4260&store=413

Closing Words

“A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.”

“Experience is something you don’t get until just after you need it.”

“For every action, there is an equal and opposite criticism.”

- Steven Wright
Where brand names are used it is for the reader's information. No endorsement is implied nor is any discrimination intended against products with similar ingredients. Always consult product label for rates, application instructions, and safety precautions. Users of these products assume all associated risks.

Published and distributed in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914, by the University of Maine and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Cooperative Extension and other agencies of the USDA provide equal opportunity in programs and employment. 01/12.

In complying with the letter and spirit of applicable laws and pursuing its own goals of diversity, the University System shall not discriminate on the grounds of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, including transgender status or gender expression, national origin, citizenship status, age, disability, or veteran's status in employment, education, and all other areas of the University System. The University provides reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request.

The University will regard freedom from discriminatory harassment as an individual employee and student right which will be safeguarded as a matter of policy. Any employee or student will be subject to disciplinary action for violation of this policy. Retaliation against anyone who makes a complaint of discrimination or harassment or who is involved in a complaint process will not be tolerated.

Questions and complaints about discrimination in any area of the University should be directed to the Executive Director of Equal Opportunity, The University of Maine, Room 101, 5754 North Stevens Hall, Orono, ME 04469-5754, telephone (207) 581-1226 (voice and TDD).

Any person with a disability who needs accommodations for this program should contact Glen Koehler to discuss their needs at least 7 days in advance.

Orchard Radar weather and pest tracking models at [http://pronewengland.org/AllModels/DecisionModels.htm](http://pronewengland.org/AllModels/DecisionModels.htm)

**Glen W. Koehler**  
Associate Scientist IPM  
Email: glen.koehler@maine.edu  
Voice: 207-581-3882 (within Maine: 800-287-0279)  
Pest Management Office, 491 College Avenue  
Orono, ME 04473-1295  
[http://pmo.umext.main.edu/apple/](http://pmo.umext.main.edu/apple/)

**Dr. Renae Moran**  
Extension Tree Fruit Specialist  
Email: rmoran@maine.edu  
Voice: 207-933-2100 ext 105  
Highmoor Farm Ag. Exp. Station, P.O. Box 179  
Monmouth ME 04259-0179  
[http://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/programs/tree-fruits/](http://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/programs/tree-fruits/)

**Putting Knowledge to Work with the People of Maine**  
A member of the University of Maine System  
[Nondiscrimination statement, disability resources, nondisclosure statement](http://www.umaine.edu/policies/nondisclosure/)

[Image of University of Maine Cooperative Extension logo]