Apple Maturity Update

Spur-type Macs in orchards in one orchard have reached a stage where they are too ripe for long-term storage, early signs of fruit drop, and a change in ground color to yellow-green.

Honeycrisp at Highmoor Farm in Monmouth were at starch index 3.2 on Tuesday, September 11. They are prone to bitter pit if picked now and put in storage. However, the chance for soft scald should still be low now. That will change to high risk when starch index reaches 5.0.

McIntosh and Cortland picked now and stored longer than four months will be at high risk of superficial scald. See the August newsletter for information on preventing superficial scald.
"The moment to spend with a husband who loves me, or a sick friend, or a delicious new grandchild is here and now. Not some time later .... The nation learned this lesson all at once that horrible day in September 2001. The pictures stay with us -- the fires and falling debris, and, most hauntingly, the faces. Look how young so many of them were, people who thought there would be much more time, a lot of 'later' when they could do all the things they really wanted to do.

I grieve for their families -- especially for those, like me, who haven't found any trace of the people they loved. But I grieve even more for the people who died that day. They couldn’t know what we know now about the precious gift of time."

~ Cokie Roberts

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