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Pesticide Safety 2010 - Plant Disease Predictions for the 2010 Growing Season

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Plant disease predictions for the 2010 growing season

**Frank L. Caruso
UMass Cranberry Station**

Diseases to mention

- Fruit rot
- Upright dieback
- Fairy ring
- Phytophthora root rot
- Other minor diseases



Fruit rot

- Wasn't bad in 2009 – mostly in Ben Lear, Stevens
- Sanding should help in reducing inoculum for infection this year
- Preliminary Keeping Quality Forecast
 - possibly 5/10 points = good
 - possibly 7/10 points = very good to excellent (waiting for sunshine hours)

Fruit rot fungicide comments

- One new registration, but not in the Chart Book
- Will be testing it and one other new active ingredient this summer
- In order of efficacy (best to worst): chlorothalonil, EBDC's, fenbuconazole, azoxystrobin, ferbam, coppers



Upright dieback

- Higher incidence than usual in 2009, particularly in Early Black
- Some beds had 20% affected uprights, although more vegetative uprights were affected
- No prolonged periods of drought stress in 2009, so should not be much UD present in 2010
- If you have upright dieback this summer, **CONTACT ME!**



Fairy ring

- Increasing in incidence and severity, as more Ben Lear and Stevens beds come into production
- Causal agent has been identified in both MA and NJ
- May treatments (Abound, Indar) are more effective than June treatments (Ferbam)
- Should run sprinklers before and after application for 30 minutes
- Susceptibility of new hybrid cultivars?

Plans for 2010

- Collaborating with Peter Oudemans and Jim Polashock, Rutgers on the complicated life cycle of the causal agent which includes a rust on several weed species
- Will evaluate several unregistered sterol inhibitor fungicides for disease control
- Eventually hope to easily culture the fungus to help identify the problem, as opposed to drought stress, etc.
- Presence of fungal infection structures on the affected tissue makes diagnosis easier







Phytophthora root rot

- Disease is prominently present, especially in poorly-drained beds
- Many beds have been flooded or presently have standing water
- When renovating a bed that has had root rot, you **MUST** treat the soil with Basamid or the disease will quickly return
- Ridomil, Aliette, Phostrol are all very effective fungicides, but you should improve the drainage first

Other minor diseases

- Who knows what we'll see in 2010?
- Pyrenobotrys leaf spot
- Protoventuria leaf spot
- Red shoot
- Red leaf spot
- Call me if you have something worth a look!



Protoventuria leaf spot



Healthy

Red Shoot



Red leaf spot



**Questions on
cranberry
diseases???**