

Nourse Farms Cane Berry Harvest and Spotted Wing Drosophila 2013

Nate Nourse

Nourse Farms

41 River Road

South Deerfield, Ma 01373

413-665-2658

nnourse@noursefarms.com

Overview

Harvesting Primocane and Floricane Red, Black and Yellow Raspberries, and Blackberries on 14 acres.

We are detecting SWD in late June to early July with traps. Our pickers and packers usually find larva in berries before there are any caught in traps.

We now apply insecticides and fungicides on a weekly basis when berries are being harvested.

Berries are harvested every other day. All culls are removed from the field by late July or early August.

We offer Pick Your Own in July. We discontinued Fall Pick Your Own.

No customer complaints for SWD since Fall 2011!

SWD never completely go away.

Basic Strategy

Regular insecticide applications every 5-10 days, utilizing PHI materials that are 24 hrs or greater whenever possible.

There is some indication the addition of Oxidate may help control insects.

We now apply all crop protectants after rain.

Harvest all ripe fruit from plants including culls. After August 1st all culls were removed from plantings.

Raspberries and Blackberries are harvested every other day. Our weekly pick schedule is Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. All Pick Your Own fields are picked clean prior to insecticide treatments.

Trellis and thin both summer and fall plantings.

All fruit not sold that day is cooled to 33 degrees. Maintaining cold chain is important!

Observations

SWD trap numbers were higher near trees and other cover.

Night time temperatures above 65-70 degrees increases hatch interval.

Pickers and packers can identify berries with larvae when soft or juicy.

Larva are harder to detect when 2 or less per fruit.

SWD was found in Kale and Collards between 2 raspberry fields.

Wish List

Get 2-4 applications of Lannate and Imidan per crop of caneberries per year for resistance management.

Identify materials to damage or plug breathing tubes on eggs.

Identify Trap Crops.

Understand other 'Hiding Places'.