

TH AGRI-CHEMICALS, Inc.

"Good People to Grow With"

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 3

JUNE 1, 2011

TH Agri-Chemicals, Inc.
30 years in business!

What started as a small ag chemical business serving the growers in central Wisconsin, has grown into a business that now services customers in 7 states in the Midwest, and has locations in Plainfield, Wisconsin and Union City, Michigan. This growth couldn't have occurred without the support of loyal customers like you. I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support these past years. It is appreciated! I also want to thank our employees. Without their dedication we would not be able to give you the service and expertise you have come to expect over the years.

We look forward to working together in 2011 and in future years.

Bob Zimpel &
Steve Rosenthal

&

TH Staff

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Weather continues to be our biggest issue this year. The second tornado of the year went through the Central Sands area turning over irrigation systems, destroying buildings and uprooting trees. It appears that the irrigation companies are having a good year with all of the repairs that are having to be done. The wind the last few days have made it difficult to get spraying done even in the evening and early morning. Potatoes have emerged in the Central Sands and some have already had their second hilling and a light rate of fungicide applied. We anticipate fungicide applications to begin in the next few days.

The high winds have also done a significant amount of damage to crops in the Central Sands. We have had stand reductions in a number of crops and some cucumbers and other crops will need to be replanted. Weather conditions have put most crops 10 days to 2 weeks behind, I do not expect any record breaking yields in any crops, and some areas are having to replant and others have been unable to get corn planted and have switched to soybeans. Wheat in Montana and Wyoming is being sprayed for disease because of all the rain. This is normally a dry arid area with very little disease pressure. The south has lost significant acres because of dikes being blown and Texas and areas of Oklahoma are still in a severe drought. I would anticipate with all of the above issues that commodity prices are going to remain high this year and in 2012.

Needless to say we have seen a lot of ups and downs in agriculture over the years but I still believe the next few years will be some of the best for those of us involved in ag.

Once again thanks for the support over the past years. It is appreciated. We look forward to working with you for the balance of 2011 and in future years.



Sincerely,

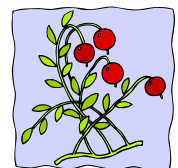
Robert L. Zimpel
President

Cranberries

Delegate WG and Chlorpyrifos 4E (generic Lorsban) seem to be the two choices for early insect control. Because of label restrictions Chlorpyrifos 4E, Diazinon AG 500 and Intrepid 2F, aerial applicators are unable to apply these products. The product of choice for aerial application has been Delegate. Growers doing ground application have more options involving application, so many of them are using Chlorpyrifos 4E. We carry a full line of insecticides, fungicides and herbicides for cranberries. Please call Craig or myself for recommendations.

****Delegate WG, Intrepid 2F and Lorsban are a registered trademark of Dow Agro-Sciences; Chlorpyrifos 4E and Diazinon AG500 are registered trademarks of Makhteshim Agan.**

Bob Zimpel



Strawberries

Picking season is rapidly approaching. Hillcrest may open for limited picking on June 10th. It looks like there is a good crop. We are going to be selling pick-your-own at \$1.50/lb. this year and \$3.50/lb for pre-picked.

Remember to keep a good fungicide program going to protect your crop. If it turns rainy like last year, you will need the protection. We lost a lot of berries last year because of cool wet weather. People didn't come out to pick and the berries rotted. Also, keep a close watch for Thrips. They can destroy a crop in a very short time.

Good luck with harvest!

Bob Zimpel



Picture is from Hillcrest Orchard & Land Co. LLC

Late Blight Questions

Growers are aware that some late blight may be present in the state as a result of infected seed potatoes. The decision to start spraying at emergence (6 inches) will have to be made soon. Growers should also monitor fields for volunteer potatoes which could compound the problem.

Many growers have used seed treatments as well as fungicides at planting to prevent problems. (I.E. Ridomil, MetaStar, Ultra Flourish, etc.). There are many products labeled for foliar applications. Some of these products are very tight in supplies, such as Tanos and Curzate. There are other products available including Omega, Champ, Kocide, Gavel, Phostrol, Previcur Flex, Ranman, Revus Top, etc. Many of these require mixing with Mancozeb or Chlorothalonil to prevent resistance.

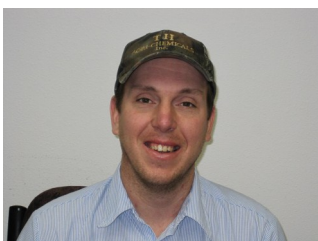
I would suggest monitoring the UW vegetable newsletter from Amanda Gevens to determine if a spray program should be started. Give us a call for your needs.

****Products mentioned are registered trademarks of the following: Ridomil, Omega and Revus Top (Syngenta), Metastar (Arysta), Ultraflourish and Phostrol (Nufarm), Tanos, Curzate and Kocide (DuPont), Ranman (FMC).**

Steve Rosenthal, CCA



Wheat Fungicides



It's time for wheat fungicides. Depending on what you have done so far and what diseases are present, there are a few good options. The best program thru flag leaf would be either Stratego at 10 ounces per acre or Quilt at 10.5—14 ounces per acre. Both products have two modes of action—a curative and preventative and they control Leaf Rust, Powdery Mildew and Septoria Leaf Spot. Both products can be mixed with a nitrogen micro nutrient or possibly insecticide if needed for Armyworm control. If Head Scab (fusarium) is the issue, you will have to make another application at flowering. Remember, flag leaf application will not control scab.

The material most commonly used for Head Scab is Proasaro at 6.5 ounces per acre, and an insecticide can be added for Armyworm if needed. Proasaro has two modes of action and is very effective at stopping scab, which can rob you of quality and yield.

****Stratego and Proasaro are registered trademarks of Bayer CropSciences; Quilt is a registered trademark of Syngenta Crop Protection.**

Jeff Luttrupp, CCA

What's Chewing up the Profits?

Corn

Black Cutworm—environmental conditions are highly likely for outbreaks. Late planting and delayed weed control also contribute to the risk. Check for signs of leaf feeding, cut, wilting and missing plants. Monitor every 2-3 days for at least 2-3 weeks after emergence, treatment is recommended at 5% or more of damage. Don't treat before the insects are there, as you will have to re-treat, most insecticides only last hours not days on the soil.

Wheat

True Armyworm—flights should be starting in June. Keep checking your fields for signs of feeding or clipping of the heads. Remember, they hide during the day so check close to nightfall. Check lodged areas closely. Re-check every couple days, treatment is recommended at 3 or more per square foot. Some materials have a 30 day PHI, so choose your material carefully.

Alfalfa

Potato Leafhopper—surveys indicate that the first hoppers have arrived. They are a migratory pest, which overwinters in the southern U.S., eastern Texas and northwest Florida. The number are moderate so no spraying is not recommended. Re-check after 4 inches of re-growth, treatment is based on the number of hoppers per foot. For 6 inches of alfalfa the threshold is .5/sweep.

Alfalfa Weevil—Keep an eye out for weevils, especially if harvest is delayed. Populations are gradually increasing. Treatment is recommended at 40% feeding on the tips.

Pea Aphid—Cool weather has been favorable, and many small nymphs are evident in some fields, and populations could be on the rise in early June. Thresholds are 100 per sweep especially if in drought type conditions.

TH will have a good selection on hand for any of your insecticide requirements. We have both branded and generic options available.

Jeff Luttrupp, CCA

****Images provided by the University of Wisconsin Madison**



Black cutworm



True Armyworm



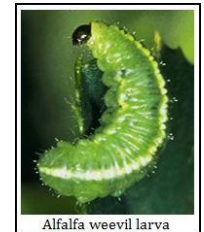
Potato leafhopper nymph



Potato leafhopper adult



Alfalfa weevil adult



Alfalfa weevil larva

Messenger STS

Potato growers will soon be approaching the time to apply Messenger STS to potatoes to reduce Common Scab and increase yields and enhance quality.

Fresh market growers should apply 3 ounces at tuber initiation with a second application 2-3 weeks later. A third application 2 weeks before vine killing will aid in tuber bulking and storage quality.

Seed potato growers should make the first 3 ounce application at hooking, with the second application 2-3 weeks later.

Messenger STS is compatible with other fungicides and insecticides. Messenger STS is also labeled for use on other crops such as peas, strawberries, green beans, etc. Please give us a call for recommendations.

****Messenger STS is a registered trademark of Plant Health.**

Steve Rosenthal, CCA

Apple Update

Prospects for the Wisconsin apple crop look good at this time. Growers in the southern part of the state have completed their thinnings. As we all know, thinning is not an exact science so it makes every year interesting.

Thrips are making an appearance this year so watch closely for this pest. Coddling Moth are at the stage where we will need to take control measures soon. Give Bob or myself a call for control recommendations on these pests and any others that you may have.

Craig Raha



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Jon Silsby (MI)	(269) 377-4668
John Crist (MI)	(269) 744-4107



TH SUMMER HOURS

MONDAY THRU
FRIDAY

7:00 A.M.— 5:30 P.M.

AND

SATURDAYS 7:00
A.M.—NOON

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*"Good People to Grow With"
for 30 years!*

Christmas Trees



BALSAM TWIG APHID ALERT!

We have gone past 140 degree days in most of the state and Balsam trees should be breaking bud soon. Growers should be on the alert for Balsam Twig Aphid and be prepared to spray. Lorsban 4E applied at 1 qt/per acre along with Chem Stik at 4 ounces/100gallons should be applied just prior to bud break or just as they are opening.

POST EMERGENT HERBICIDES

Christmas tree spray programs may have to be adjusted after bud break. Many of the pre emergent herbicides may not work or even cause damage if applied too late. The same herbicides will not control emerged grasses and weeds. Please give us a call for options, especially if you were not able to get any product sprayed because of the weather.

TIME TO FERTILIZE?

Many growers have called about the amount of fertilizer to put on trees. The question can best be answered by a combination of soil and tissue tests. These test results can provide valuable information. One rule of thumb that I have used is to apply 1 ounce of fertilizer per foot of tree height. (Such as 13-13-13), I would only use this approach if a soil test has not been done. I would also be very careful on new seedling and transplants. Fertilizer can and will take moisture out of new plantings, especially if it gets dry.

***Lorsban 4E is a registered trademark of Dow AgroSciences; Chemstik is a registered trademark of Precision Labs.*

Steve Rosenthal, CCA
Vice President