



IPM News

***Lorraine P. Berkett, IPM Specialist
October 2004***

Calahan Award Presented to Christopher A. Benedict

At a reception of faculty, staff, and students in the Department of Plant and Soil Science on September 8th, Christopher Benedict was awarded the Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association's Calahan Award. The C. Lyman Calahan Award is named for Dr. Calahan, a former faculty member in the Department of Plant & Soil Science, who for 29 years provided advice and guidance to Vermont apple growers as the extension fruit horticulturalist. His fruit expertise was highly respected by growers, researchers, and extension personnel. The Calahan Award recognizes an outstanding student who has made significant contributions to apple research and extension and shows great promise for advancing sustainable apple production.

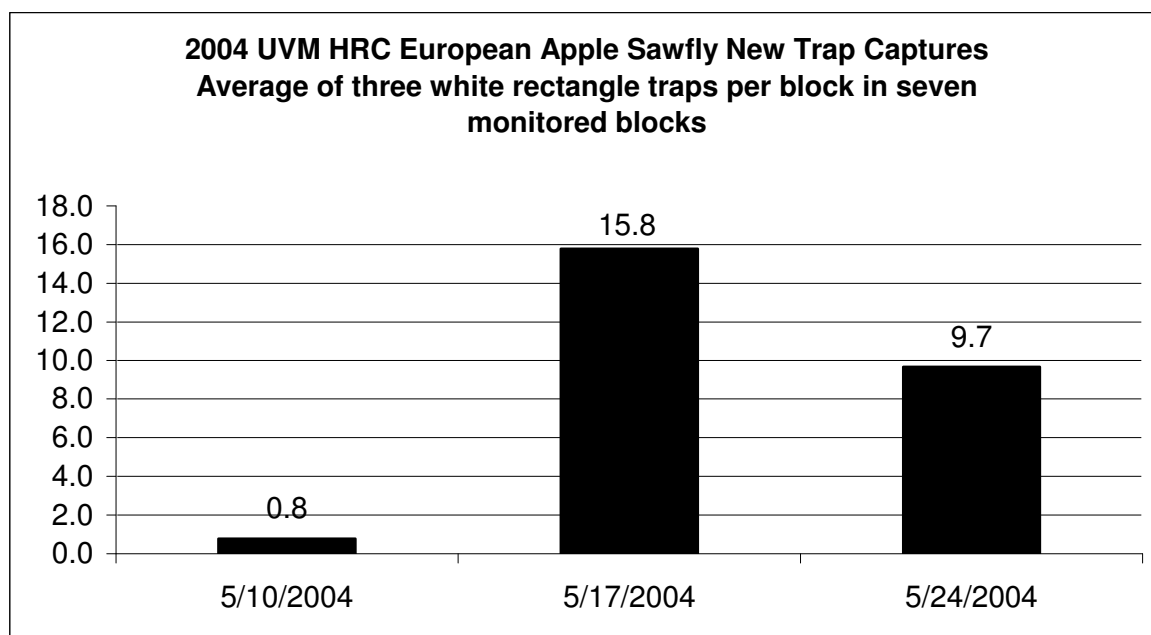
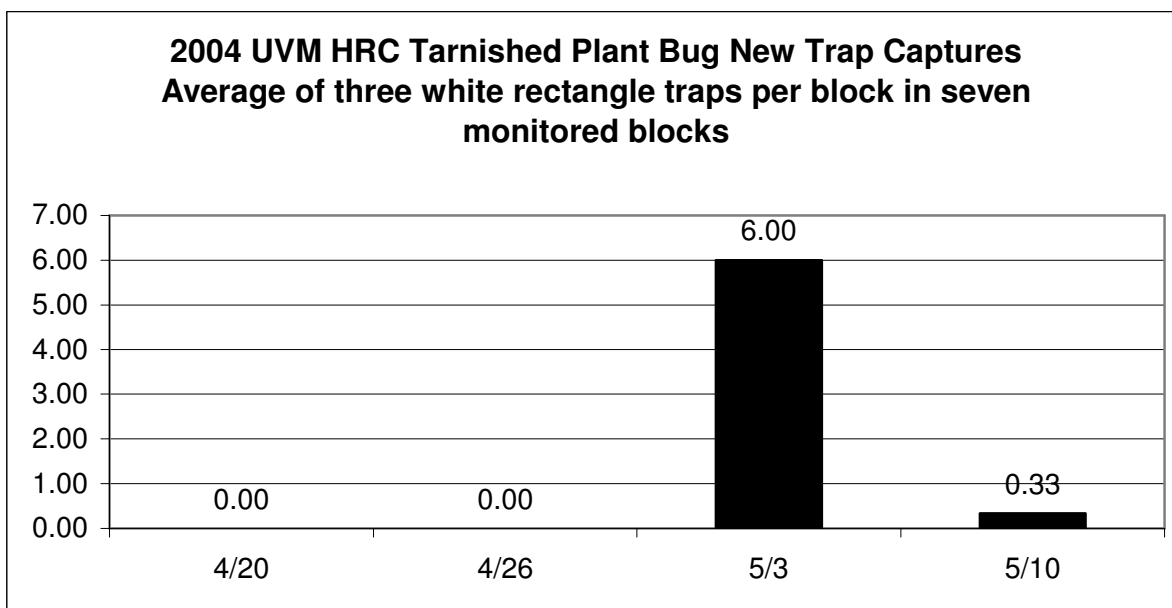


Christopher Benedict graduated from UVM with a B.S. degree in Plant and Soil Science in 2001 and became a member of the Apple Team in 2002. He has greatly contributed to all aspects of the apple extension and research program. For example, it is Chris who has been monitoring the UVM orchards over the past two years and producing the insect graphs published in this newsletter. He not only has participated in apple cultivar and rootstock research, he has been investigating the non-target impact of kaolin (Surround) on European red mites and predacious mites for his Master of Science research project. His research results are very interesting and will be presented at the National Meeting of the Entomological Society of America in November and at the upcoming New England and Vermont apple grower meetings this winter.

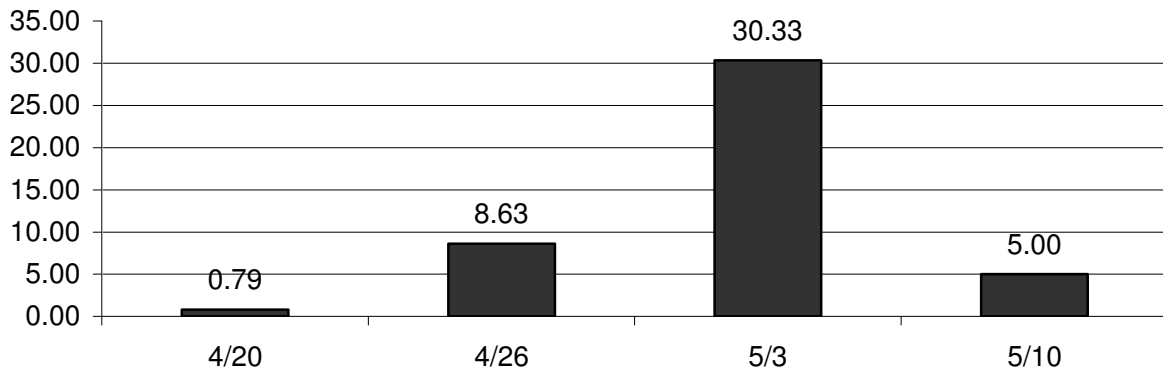
Congratulations, Chris !

Wrap-Up of 2004 Insect Activity

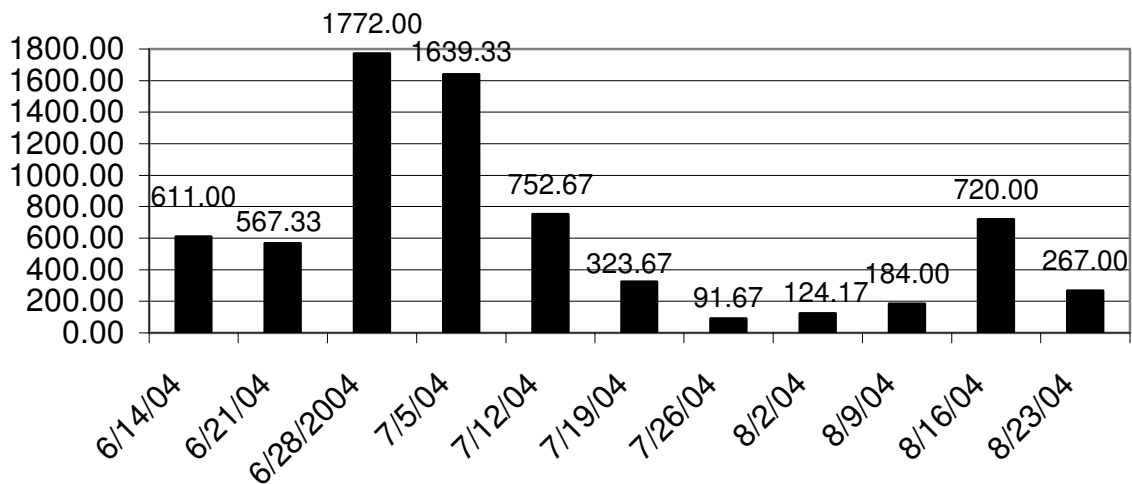
The following is a summary of the insect trap captures at the UVM Hort. Res. Center (HRC). Your weather conditions and pest pressure may have been different but the graphs will hopefully give you an idea of the trends for the different insects in 2004.



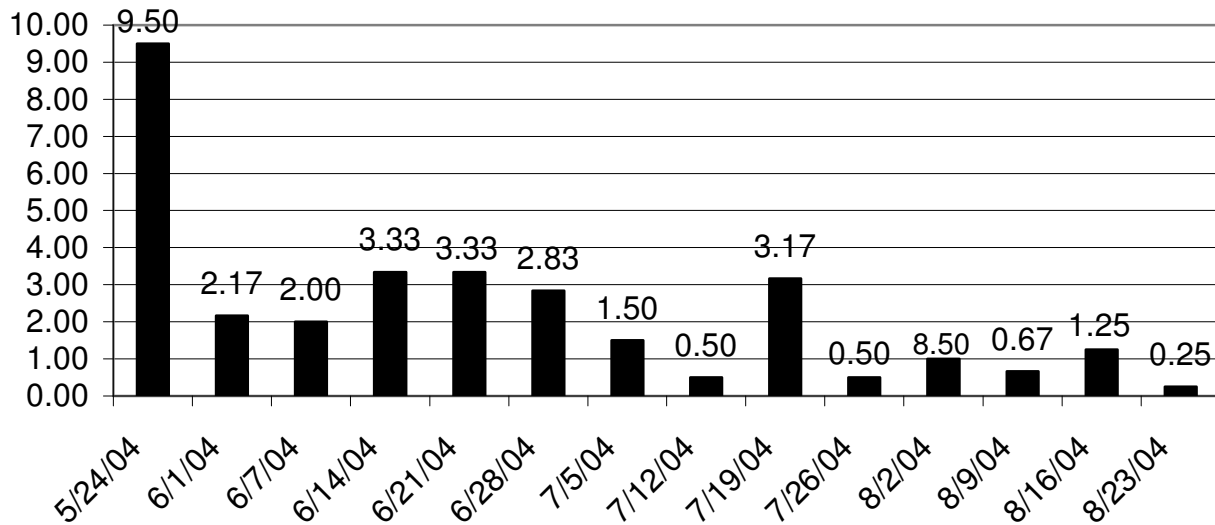
**2004 UVM HRC Spotted Tentiform Leafminer First Generation New
Trap Captures**
Average of four red trunk traps per block in seven monitored blocks



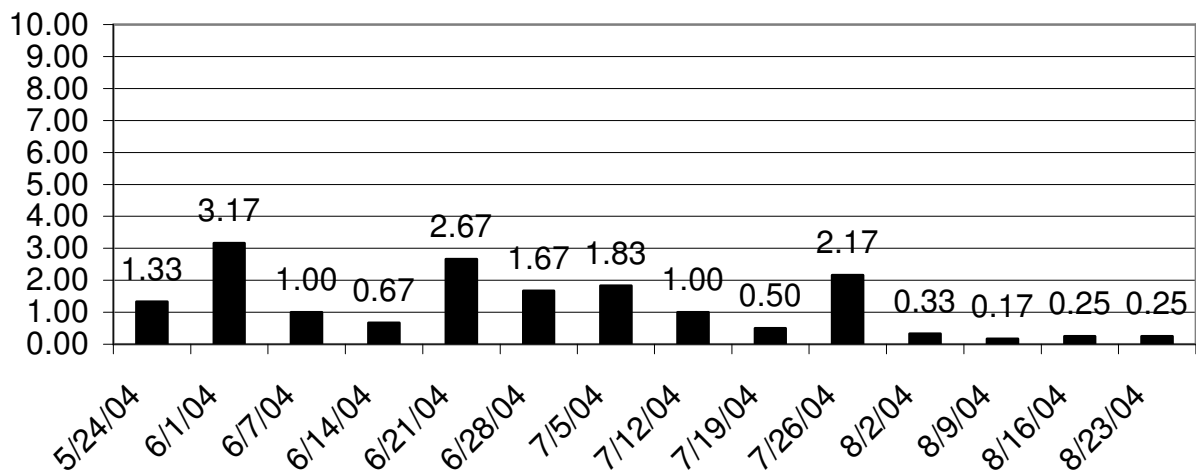
**2004 UVM HRC Spotted Tentiform Leafminer New Wing Trap
Captures**
Average of one pheromone baited wing trap per block in seven
monitored blocks

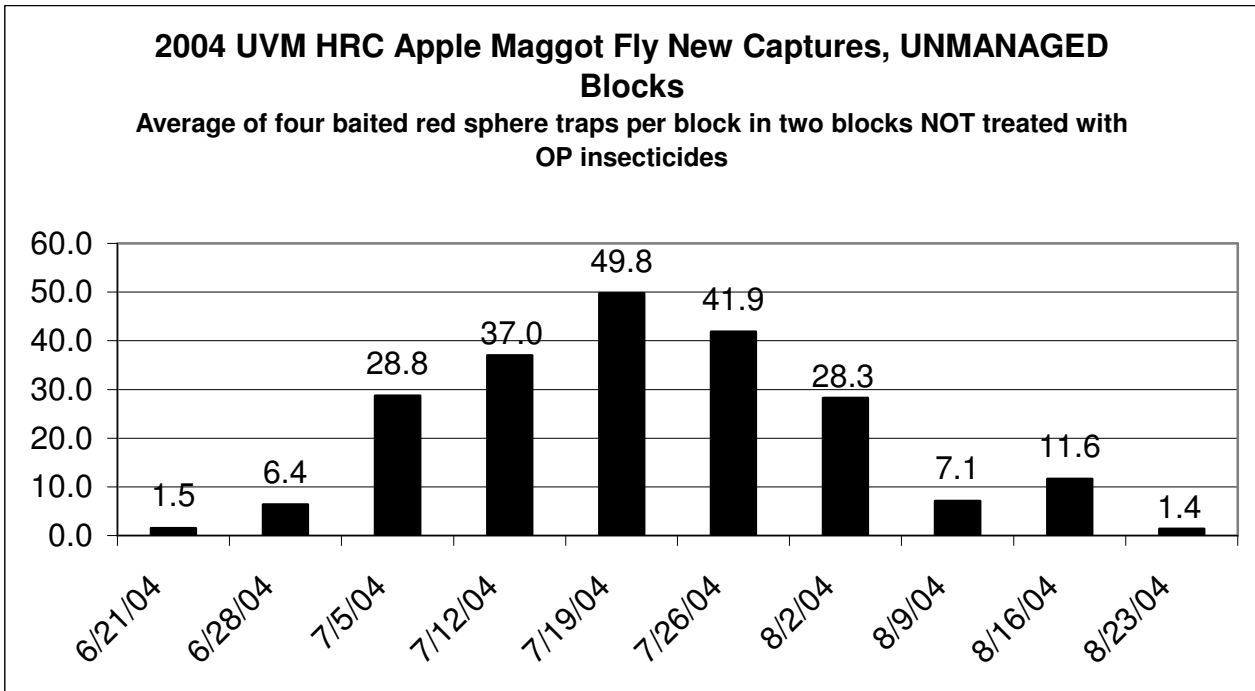
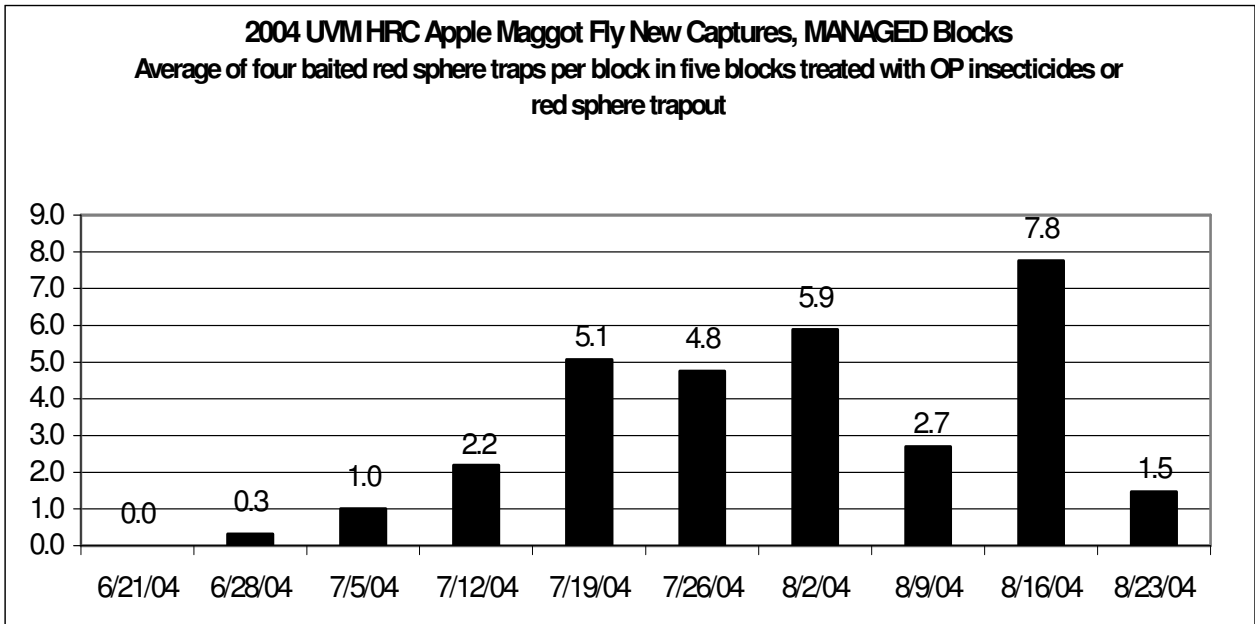


2004 UVM HRC Codling Moth New Trap Captures
Average of one pheromone baited wing trap per block in seven monitored blocks



2004 UVM HRC Obliquebanded Leafroller New Trap Captures
Average of one pheromone baited wing trap per block in six monitored blocks





Items for the “To-Do” List

You have seen the following list before, but I know lists help me to review what I need to do. Hopefully this list will be helpful to you, particularly if you are relatively new to apple production. If you need any further information on any of the items, please do not hesitate to contact me.

October

- ✓ Check trunks (small diameter trees especially) for signs of **Borers**.
- ✓ After harvest and before leaf fall, estimate the orchard’s level of “**Scab risk**” by following the sequential sampling procedure.
- ✓ Check placement and condition of **Vole guards**; repair and re-position if necessary.
- ✓ Remove or mow **fruit drops** where feasible as they are a source of food for Voles.
- ✓ **Mow** grass to discourage Vole activity.

November

- ✓ After leaves have fallen to ground, perform **Apple Scab** sanitation practices.
- ✓ **Paint trunk** to protect against sudden temperature changes.
- ✓ If **Deer** repellents will be used, set them before Deer establish a feeding habit. Inspect and make repairs to Deer fence.
- ✓ **Clean, service and properly store** equipment and pesticides.

December to March

- ✓ **Evaluate completeness of your records** from the previous growing season. In addition to legal requirements, do they reflect scouting information and include levels of disease and insect damage in different blocks, do they include tree health information, foliar and/or soil analyses? Does your record-keeping system need improvement?

- ✓ Use records to **review pest management results** from the previous growing season and make necessary adjustments.
- ✓ **Read** fact sheets, articles and other resources on the biology and life cycles of different orchard pests and beneficial organisms; **attend** fruit workshops and meetings to obtain updates on thresholds and IPM options; get on the mailing and email lists for newsletters and alerts.
- ✓ **Review pesticide labels** for any changes in use, pre-harvest intervals, handling, disposal or storage.
- ✓ Review information on **non-target effects of pesticides** on biological control agents and determine what materials will be effective yet conserve beneficial organisms.
- ✓ Start any major **repairs** to orchard spray equipment so that it will be ready to calibrate and function properly when the season begins.
- ✓ **Order** IPM monitoring supplies.
- ✓ **Clean** and **sharpen** pruning tools.
- ✓ **Prune** trees to provide good tree structure but also to open canopy for light and air penetration, which will have both horticultural benefit (i.e., better fruit coloring with more light) and pest management benefits (i.e., make conditions less favorable for disease development; allows better pesticide penetration). Remove cankers, dead or weak wood. Remove mummified fruit.
- ✓ While pruning, note any sections of orchard that have high numbers of overwintering **European Red Mite** eggs.

And, very importantly.....

- ✓ *Take time to relax and re-charge your inner batteries.*

***See you at the New England and Vermont apple grower meetings
this winter !!***

Contact Information

A Commitment to Excellence and Service:

If you have any questions or want to arrange for an orchard visit regarding your concerns, please call or write.

For horticulture questions contact:

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