



Vermont Apple IPM Alert

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Just a Reminder and a Few Announcements ...

A Reminder -- **Deadline to receive early, discounted registration** for the **2012 Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association Annual Meeting and Workshop** is **Feb. 3**. The **Registration Form** for the meeting is at:

<http://orchard.uvm.edu/uvmapple/industry/2012VTFGAMembershipAndRegistrationForm.pdf>

The **Brochure** describing the meeting is on the web at:

<http://orchard.uvm.edu/uvmapple/industry/2012BrochureVTFGAMeetingAndWorkshop.pdf>

The program has been approved for two pesticide recertification credits.

An Announcement -- Research results from the **OrganicA Project** are on the web. A number of you have inquired about organic apple production and have been interested in the results of the OrganicA Project. At the New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference this past December, the OrganicA Project organized a half-day session where results of the project were presented and discussed. The presentations covered research results from 2009- 2011 and are at:

http://www.uvm.edu/~organica/OrganicAProject/2011NEVFC/2011NEVFC_Presentations.html

A **"Practical Guide for Organic Apple Production"** is also on the OrganicA Website. Growing organic apples in New England is challenging and requires extensive knowledge of horticulture, disease and arthropod management, soil health, economic planning and strategic marketing. The goal of this publication is to share the authors' experiences and knowledge about organic apple production in New England. It is not our intent to reinvent the wheel, but to give commercial growers a multimedia resource about the challenges and opportunities of growing apples organically. Our aim also is to connect growers to information available from various sources. *It is a work in progress...your comments and suggestions are always welcome.*

Another opportunity to learn about the OrganicA Project is through a **webinar** which has been scheduled for **Tuesday, January 24, 2:00-3:15 pm EST**. The title of the webinar is: **"The OrganicA Project: Current Research on Organic Production of Ginger Gold, Honeycrisp, Zestar!, Macoun, and Liberty Apples"**. Research results will be presented and there will be a period for asking questions. **The webinar is free but advanced registration is required**. If you are interested, please go to the following webpage for more details:

<http://www.extension.org/pages/61985/the-organica-project-webinar>

Another Announcement: A Summer Course on “**Cold Climate Viticulture**” is being offered at UVM. A number of apple growers have expressed an interest in growing grapes and Terence Bradshaw, who is a member of the UVM Apple & Grape Team and Assistant Director of the UVM Hort. Research Center, will be the Instructor of an exciting course this summer on “Cold Climate Viticulture.” The course will take place from 8:45am to 3:45pm on Wednesdays from May 23 - July 11, 2012. The following is a brief description of the course:

Students will learn principles and practices of commercial cold-climate grape production, including: site selection and preparation; varietal selection; vine training; nutrient, water and pest management; harvest; and introductory winemaking considerations. Special emphasis will be placed on environmental and economic sustainability of the vineyard operation. The class will apply knowledge of integrated horticultural and pest management practices in a real vineyard setting. The class format will consist of a combination of classroom lectures, hands-on fieldwork, and visits to local commercial vineyards.

Class enrollment is limited to 20 students and it is expected to fill up quickly. For further information, please see:

<http://learn.uvm.edu/courselistssummer/course.php?term=201206&crn=60916>

And FinallyA Sincere Thank You -- Thanks go out to all who have provided input into the UVM Apple Program Survey. It is greatly appreciated. If you have not provided input, please do so at: <http://orchard.uvm.edu/uvmapple/lpmAppleEvalJanuary2012.html> It would be most helpful to have your input by **January 31**.

Where trade names or commercial products are used for identification, no discrimination is intended and no endorsement is implied. Always read the label before using any pesticide. **The label is the legal document for the product use. Disregard any information in this newsletter if it is in conflict with the label.**

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