

Controlling Secondary Apple Scab

Win Cowgill

Professor Emeritus Rutgers, Win Enterprises International, LLC

Apple Scab is one of the major diseases to control in apple production. If you are aggressive and start early (Green Tip), you can achieve near perfect scab control. That being said, apple scab is showing up on leaves in several blocks in NJ and PA. The secondary scab resulting from spore release from these primary leaf infections is harder to control. You will have to be aggressive to keep the fruit clean.

As soon as you see active scab lesions, either a complete spray of: Option 1- Captan 5 pounds/A should have been applied to protect the fruitlets or Option 2 -Captozeb' program that has 3 lbs of a Mancozeb/A product + 2 lbs Captan 80W plus a systemic fungicide. Remember that Mancozeb has a 77 Day PHI. Once that is reached, the only option is a full rate of Captan plus one of the systemic fungicides.

Captan 80WDG must be reapplied every 7 to 10 days, depending on rainfall. After 1.5 to 2 inches of rain, retreat. Note that fruit must be covered and recovered until you are 100% sure that all the primary scab lesions have been burned out of the leaves, or you will run the risk of secondary scab infection. The full rate of Captan 80 WDG is 5lbs/A.

The other systemic fungicides should be added to each spray to try and burn out scab in the leaves. Use the best materials at the highest rates. We are concerned with

fungicide resistance to both the DMI and strobilurin fungicides. Also rotate systemic fungicides by FRAC groups with each spray. If you think that you have resistance and have not used Topsin M for a while, consider that for your first spray.

Use Topsin M-70WSB (1) at 1 lb/Acre to burn scab out of leaves. In subsequent sprays switch to sterol inhibitors (Inspire Super (FRAC 3+9) or Indar 2F (FRAC 3)). Also, SDHI's (Luna Sensation (FRAC 7+11), Merivon (FRAC 7+11), Aprovia (FRAC 7), or Sovran (FRAC 7)) may be used in place of the sterol inhibitors.

Note that you may need up to four weekly applications of full rate Captan plus a systemic to control secondary scab. For the rest of the summer keep Captan in the spray at 10-14 day intervals

Systemic fungicides, like Sovran (FRAC 11) then Inspire Super @12ounces/Acre (FRAC 3) should also help control cedar apple rust and the summer diseases.

According to Serjan Acimovic, Cornell Hudson Valley Lab, you need 190 hours of wetting (counting from PF onward and using NEWA data for your specific location) for sooty blotch/flyspeck infections. Be ready to ramp up your fungicides of choice to prevent sooty blotch and flyspeck infections and summer rot diseases.

Thank you to Serjan Acimovic and Dan Cooley (UMass Amherst) for help on secondary scab control.



Cedar Apple rust on cedar trees (the alternate host) in Annandale, NJ. Make sure to begin applying fungicides to apple trees at the pink stage to prevent infection. Photo Credit: Butch Sorge.

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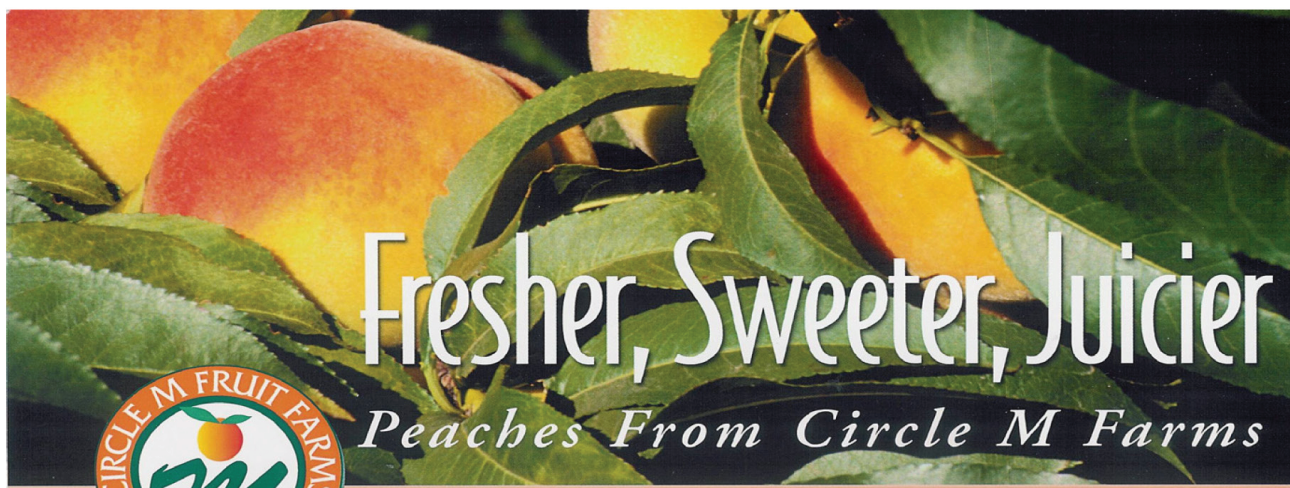
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