

Thrips May Be Cause Of Strawberry Problem

(Continued from Page A26)
cap-fruit zone.
Further, the thrips also thrive on clover and checking clover flowers adjacent to a strawberry patch can help determine if thrips may be a problem.

Anti-pesticide Consumers

Some growers are being put in a difficult situation: for some who market strawberries roadside, or who run "pick-your-own" operations, consumers have been frequently asking whether plants or fruit has been protected with pesticide.

According to Goulart, there's a Catch-22 for strawberry growers: if a producer uses pesticides he may lose a lot of consumers; if he doesn't use pesticide he may not have a crop at all.

Further Support

Goulart said that she is even more confident in the estimate of being "90-percent" sure that thrips

are the problem because she has initially found that producers who used pesticides on strawberry plants while the plants were in flower have not had the thrips problem. She said it appears that those who did not use any pesticides are experiencing losses.

And while there are not yet any official recommendations for fighting the problem, Hellerick said cross referencing has allowed him to suggest three possible pesticides approved for use on strawberries.

In his computer memo, Hellerick states, "Since this pest is usually not a major problem, it is not listed in the Small Fruit Production and Pest Management Guide. I checked the Penn State Woody Ornamental Pest Control Suggestion Guide for insecticide recommendations for exposed thrips. I then cross referenced this information with insecticides registered for strawberries ... Insecticides

remaining with days to harvest include: Diazinon (apply just before bloom), Guthion (five days wait until harvest), and Sevin XLR (one day wait until harvest)."

However, using a pesticide now may be considered a waste of time.

These insects are not often exposed and the chemical may not get to the where the pests are located.

Goulart said she intends to research the insect further in an attempt to determine some poten-

tially effective treatments and to build some recommendations for control.

In addition, strawberries are not the only plants being affected by thrips in Lancaster. According to Hellerick, it has been affecting the development and health of roses.

Adams Holstein Approve Scholarship

GETTYSBURG (Adams Co.) — Establishment of a scholarship program and plans for summer activities were advanced when the Board of Directors, Adams County Holstein Association, met June 6, at the Penn State Extension office, in Gettysburg. Marvin Brown presided.

Kevin Holtziner, secretary, read minutes of recent board meetings; Robin Thompson presented a current financial report.

The board considered options for distribution of a quantity of cheese which remains unsold from the recent fund raiser. It was decided to award one block to each paid member who attends the Holstein Association's Twilight meeting on Thursday, July 14.

Reporting for a newly appointed scholarship committee, Kevin Holtzinger presented the criteria for awarding a \$250 scholarship. The report was accepted and the scholarship established by unanimous vote.

Applicants must be a member of the Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association, a resident of Adams County, who is attending or planning to attend a 4-year school, two-year school, technical school, or short course which has been approved by the scholarship committee. Applicants are eligible as high school seniors through age 21.

Applications for the scholarship are available at the Adams County Extension Office, 1135 Chambersburg Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325, and must be completed and returned to this address on or

before September 15, 1994.

The board voted to provide \$300 toward support of the Farm-City Open House event which is being planned for the John Hess Farm on Saturday, Sept. 17, 1994.

Plans were advanced for a Dairy Twi-Light meeting to be held on Thursday, July 14, 7 p.m. at the Lagging Stream Farm of

Thomas Clowney and sons, at Barlow. The program will feature cow judging and a discussion of intensive grazing.

Anticipating a large dairy show at the South Mountain Fair on Friday, Sept. 2, 1994, the board agreed to sponsor the Holstein Show which will facilitate the hiring of a second judge.

USDA Adopts TB Controls For Deer, Elk

LANHAM, Md. — On May 15, the US Department of Agriculture instituted Uniform Methods and Rules for the eradication of tuberculosis in Cervidae (deer & elk), regulations which are equivalent to those in place for cattle and bison.

Though Tb has been found in new farmed deer herds over the past 10 years, the deer farming industry recognized early that livestock diseases must be controlled and began working with USDA to identify effective testing methods and to develop regulations which would ensure accurate diagnosis of the disease on farms.

Deer farmers, represented by the North American Deer farmers Association, have worked diligently over the past 5 years to establish reasonable and necessary regulation of their livestock.

In the absence of assistance or regulatory input from wildlife agencies, the deer farming industry has worked with the USDA and state departments of agriculture, which appropriately regulate livestock and the safety of food products for human consumption.

NADeFA President Joe Delfino, owner of Old Moses Farm in Vermont, farms deer and raises horses.

Mr. Delfino said, "It has been the USDA which works to control disease, not the wildlife agencies. Unfortunately, some wildlife agencies have chosen not to work with the deer farming industry and USDA and are ignoring existing facts and regulations and all too frequently make statements based on rumors and lack of specific knowledge."



The Eastern Flowers Thrips has been infesting strawberries — flowers and fruit — and in the fruit are found feeding in the area between the cap and the fruit. This is the area of concentration of vessels which carry plant fluid and nutrition to the developing fruit. It is thought that thrips are getting the nutrition, not the fruit.

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