

2021 DEC HVRL Webinar Session: Organic Production

**Scab Resistant Varieties, 2020 Frost Injuries
and Strategies for Sunburn Prevention**

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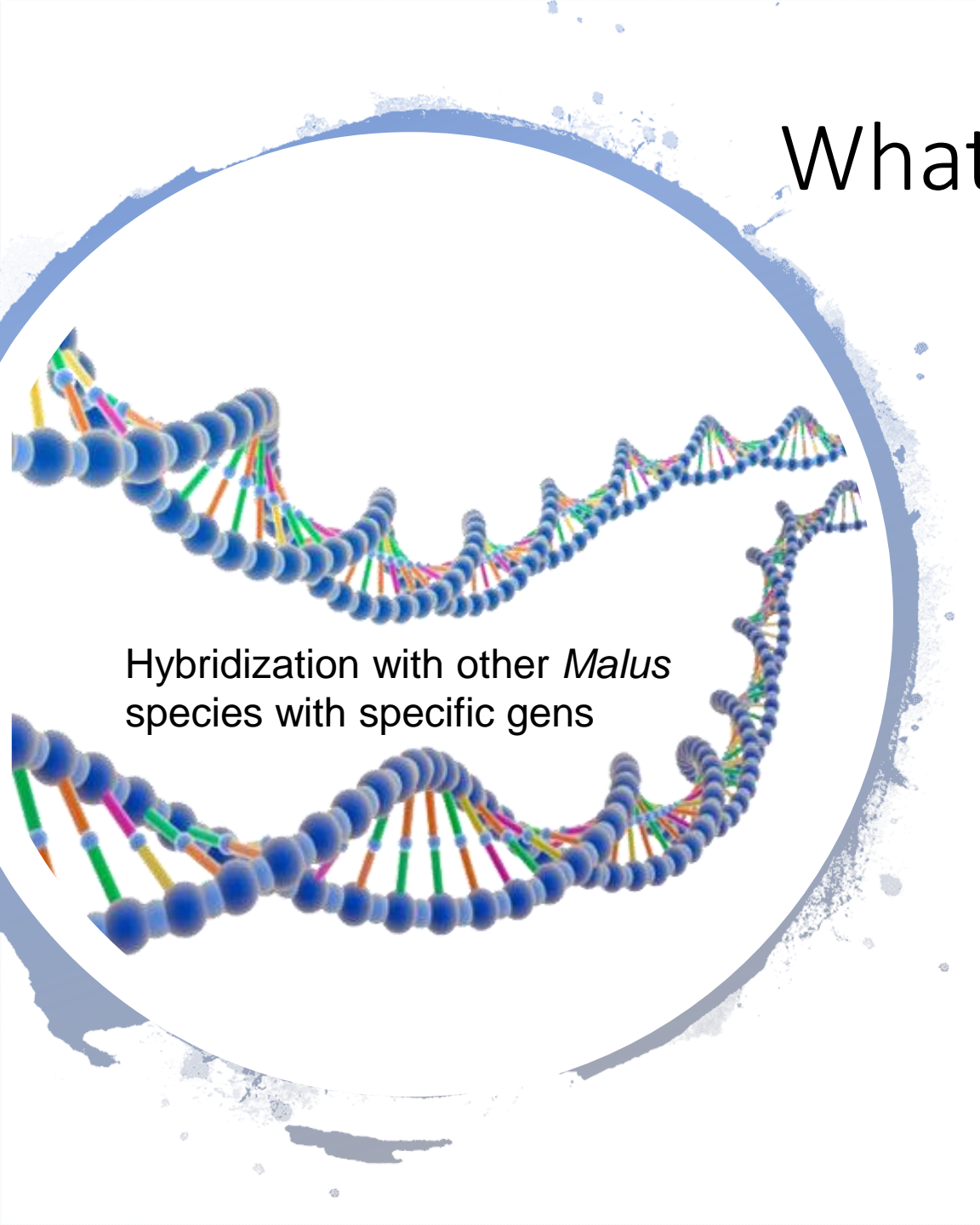
Apple scab (*Venturia inaequalis*) infection on leaves and fruit (Photo by S. G. Aćimović)



Disease Resistant Cultivars

- Organic apple production in the Northeast US is challenging
- Materials permitted by the National Organic Program can cause:
 - problems with phytotoxicity (oils and sulfur-based compounds),
 - environmental toxicity (copper-based compounds)
 - resistance effects on human pathogens (streptomycin antibiotics).
- Disease Resistant Cultivars - require minimal disease-control sprays.

What Makes a Cultivar Resistant?



Hybridization with other *Malus* species with specific gens



Malus floribunda
Japanese flowering crabapple
source for the Vf gene



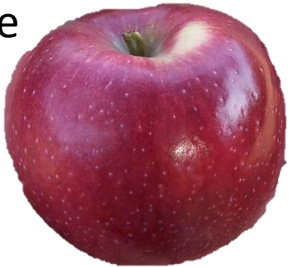
Malus micromalus
Kaido crabapple
source for the Vm gene

- Qualitative resistance

First Scab Resistant Varieties

- *M. floribunda* 821: Purdue University/Rutgers University/the University of Illinois - breeding program (1926).
- 80% of the scab-resistant cultivars carry the *Vf* resistance gene from *M. floribunda* 821.

Williams'
Pride



kuffelcreek.files.wordpress.com

Liberty



fogholloworchards.com

Prima



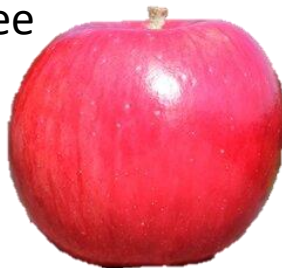
www.saltspringapplecompany.com

GoldRush



saltspringapplecompany.com

Jonafree



saltspringapplecompany.com

Enterprise



newenglandapples.org

Pristine



saltspringapplecompany.com

From Scab-Resistant to Scab-Susceptible

- 1993 – Prima (Germany)
- 1994 – *M. floribunda* 821 (England)
- 2007 – *M. floribunda* 821 (Indiana, Illinois, Ohio)
- 2008 – Pristine, Pixie Crunch, and Jonafree (Indiana & Illinois)
- 2009 – Enterprise (Indiana)



Photo by S. G. Aćimović

More Durable Source for Disease Resistance

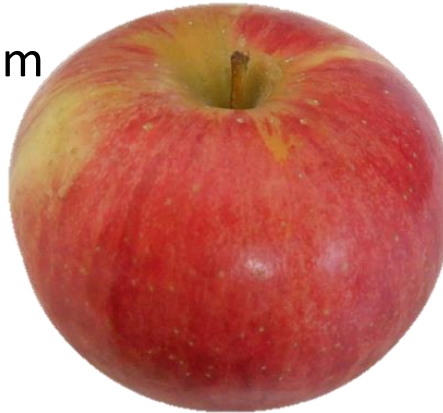
- Quantitative polygenic resistance

Antonovka



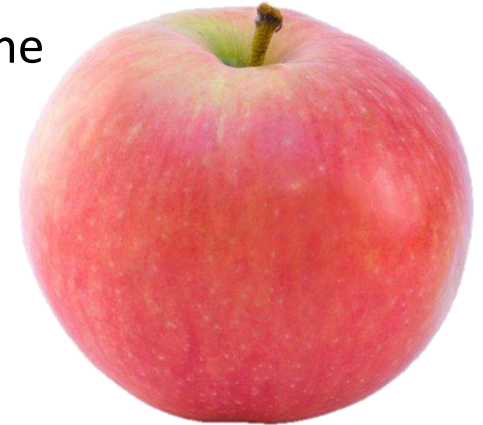
saltspringapplecompany.com

Freedom



newenglandapples.org

Akane



www.instacart.com



SCR Varieties Don't Need Fungicides - Wrong!

- Reduce inoculum size in leaf litter
- Spray for the primary infection
- Implement good horticultural practice for Scab reduction
- Grow SCR varieties separated from susceptible varieties

Disease Resistant Varieties

Photos by S. G. Aćimović

Variety
Enterprise
Freedom
Nova Easygro
Priscilla
Redfree
Sundance
Williams Pride



Apple Scab



Cedar Apple Rust



Powdery Mildew



Fire Blight

Disease Resistant Varieties

Photos by S. G. Aćimović

Variety
Akane
Co-op 27
Co-op 34
Juliet
Pristine



Apple Scab



Cedar Apple Rust



Fire Blight

Disease Resistant Varieties

Photos by S. G. Aćimović

Variety
Ariane
Britegold
Wine Crisp
Co-op 36
Co-op 37
Dayton
GoldRush
Richelieu



Apple Scab



Powdery Mildew



Fire Blight

Disease Resistant Varieties

Photos by S. G. Aćimović

Variety

CrimsonCrisp

Scarlet O'Hara



Apple Scab



Cedar Apple Rust



Powdery Mildew

Disease Resistant Varieties

Variety	Apple Scab	Cedar Apple Rust	Powdery Mildew	Fire Blight
Florina (Querina)	+			+
Belmac	+		+	
Otava	+		+	
Rubinola	+		+	
Sansa	polygenic		+	
Topaz	+		+	
Moira	+	+		

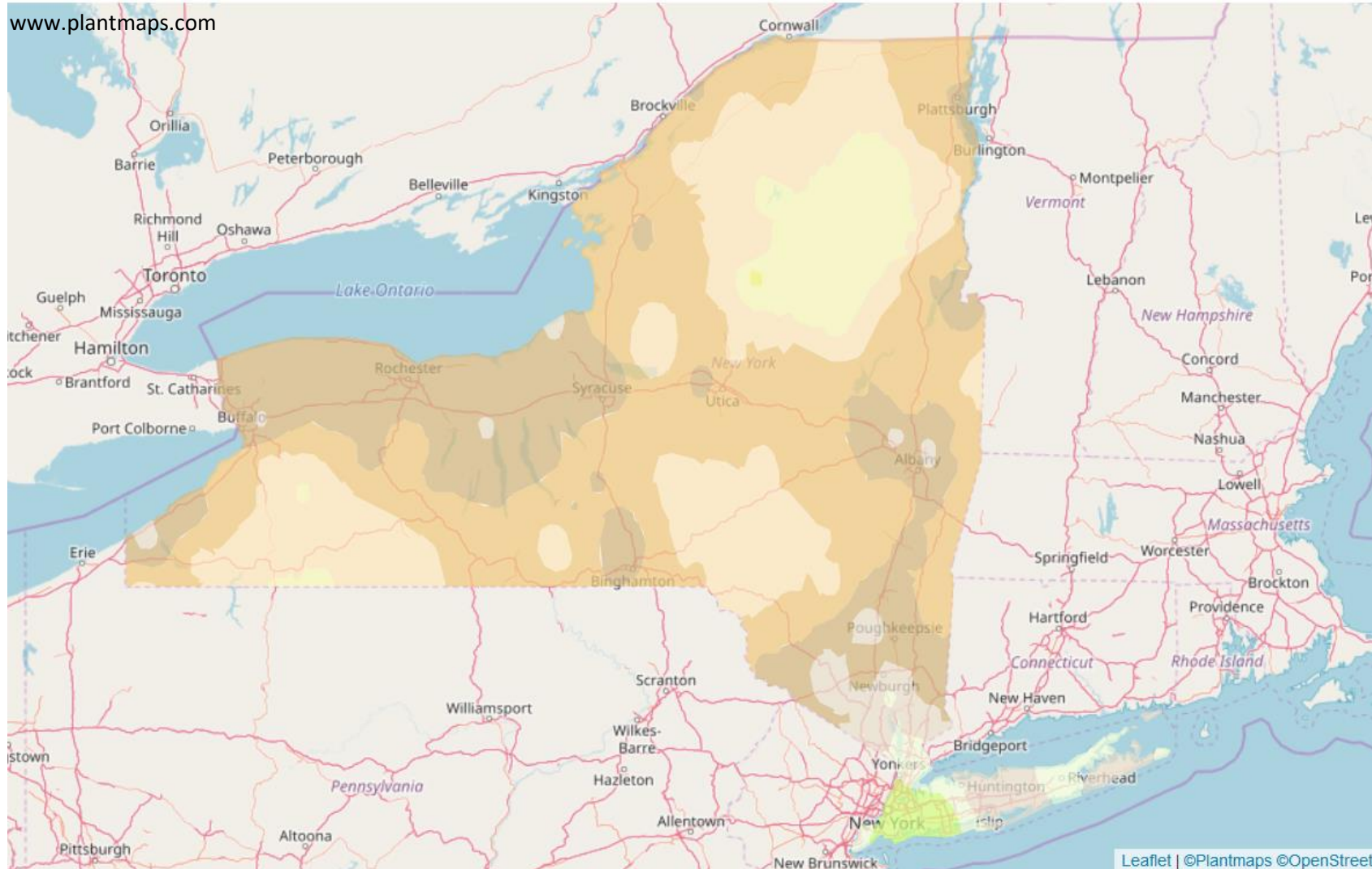


Disease Resistant Varieties

Variety	Apple Scab
Co-op 28	+
Ecolette	+
Galarina	+
Jonafree	+
Liberty	+
Macfree	+
McShay	+
Murray	+
Novamac	+
Nova Spy	+
Pixie Crunch	+
Priam	+
Prima	+
Primevere	+
Rouville	+ / ?
Santana	+
Sir Prize	+
Trent	+



Average Last Frost Date For NYS



Critical Temp (°F) for Apple Developmental Stages

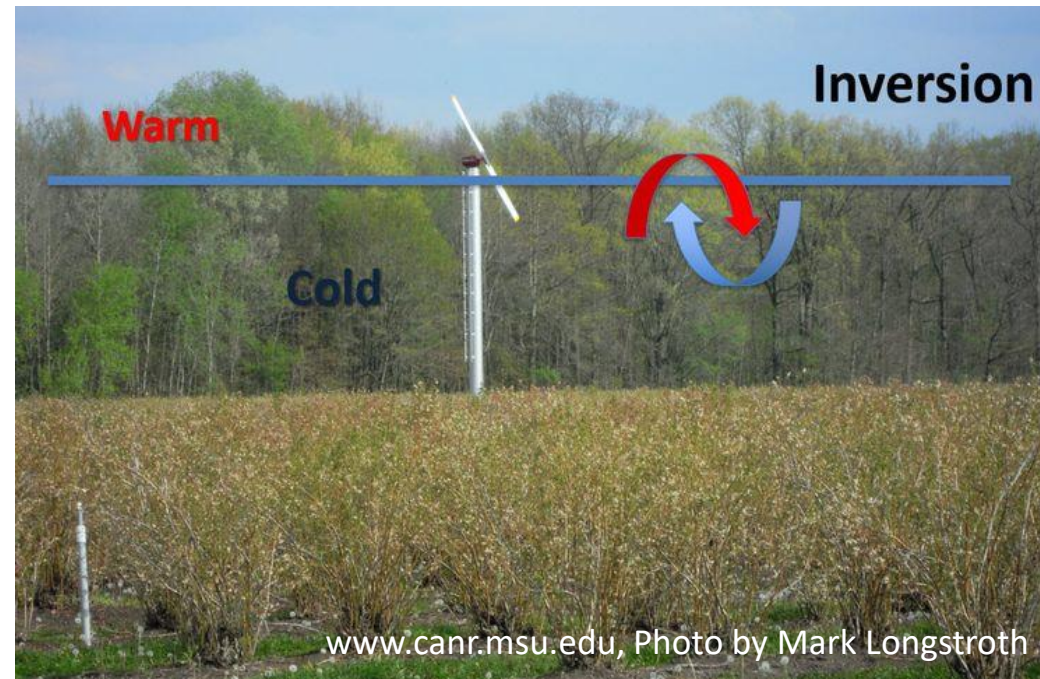


	Green tip	Tight cluster	Pink	Full bloom	Post bloom
Temperature for 10% kill	18	27	27	28	28
Temperature for 90% kill	10	21	25	25	25
D. C. Ferree & I. J. Warrington, <i>Apples: Botany, Production and Uses</i> , Cambridge: CABI, 2003. Print.					

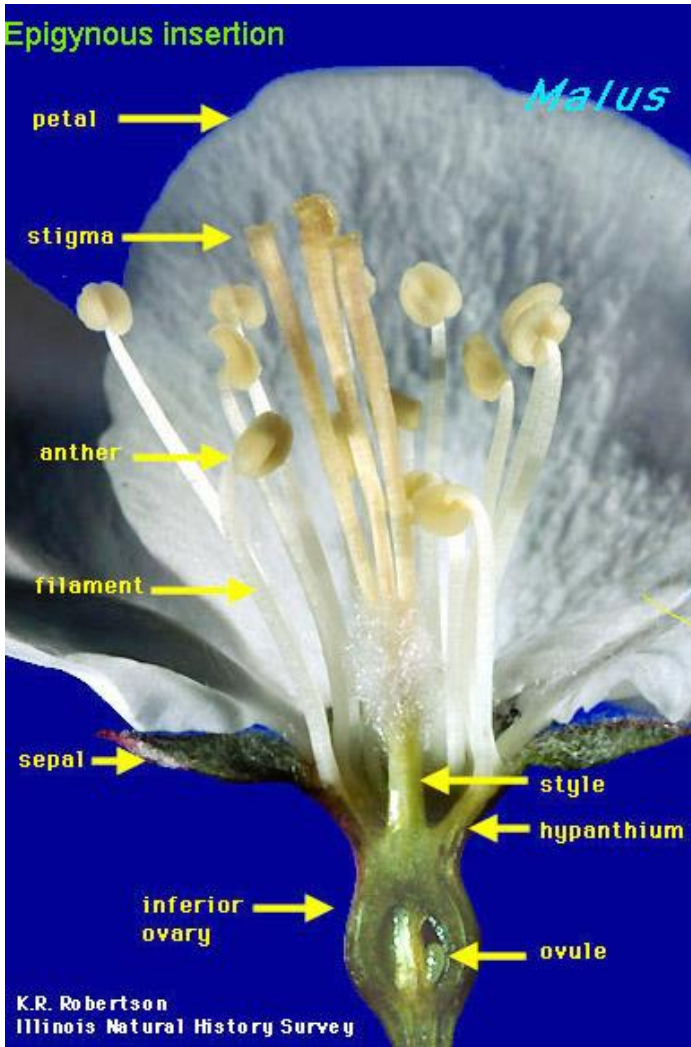
Preventive Strategies



- Wind Machines & Helicopters
- Overhead Irrigation
- Under-the-Tree Irrigation
- Orchard Heaters or Fires



Frost Injury Assessment



- April 23 - 27.5°F for 4 hrs.
- Tight cluster most cultivars, Empire most advanced with 74% in pink.
- 20 flower buds per cultivar for frost injury estimation.

Frost Injury Assessment

- May 9 - 30.1°F
- Full bloom

Flower injuries after the frost on April 23 and May 9, 2020

Variety	% Total Mortality		% King Mortality		% Lateral Mortality	
	3-May	11-May	3-May	11-May	3-May	11-May
Empire	58	80	81	95	51	76
Gala	8	66	15	65	6	67
Honey Crisp	19	28	45	40	12	24
Fuji	36	38	65	70	30	31
NY1	9	67	38	75	3	65
NY2	31	85	64	80	24	87

- Less than 40% king bloom losses as the threshold for bloom thinning
- Over 80% of total flower damage – do not apply thinners



Frost Damages: Conclusions

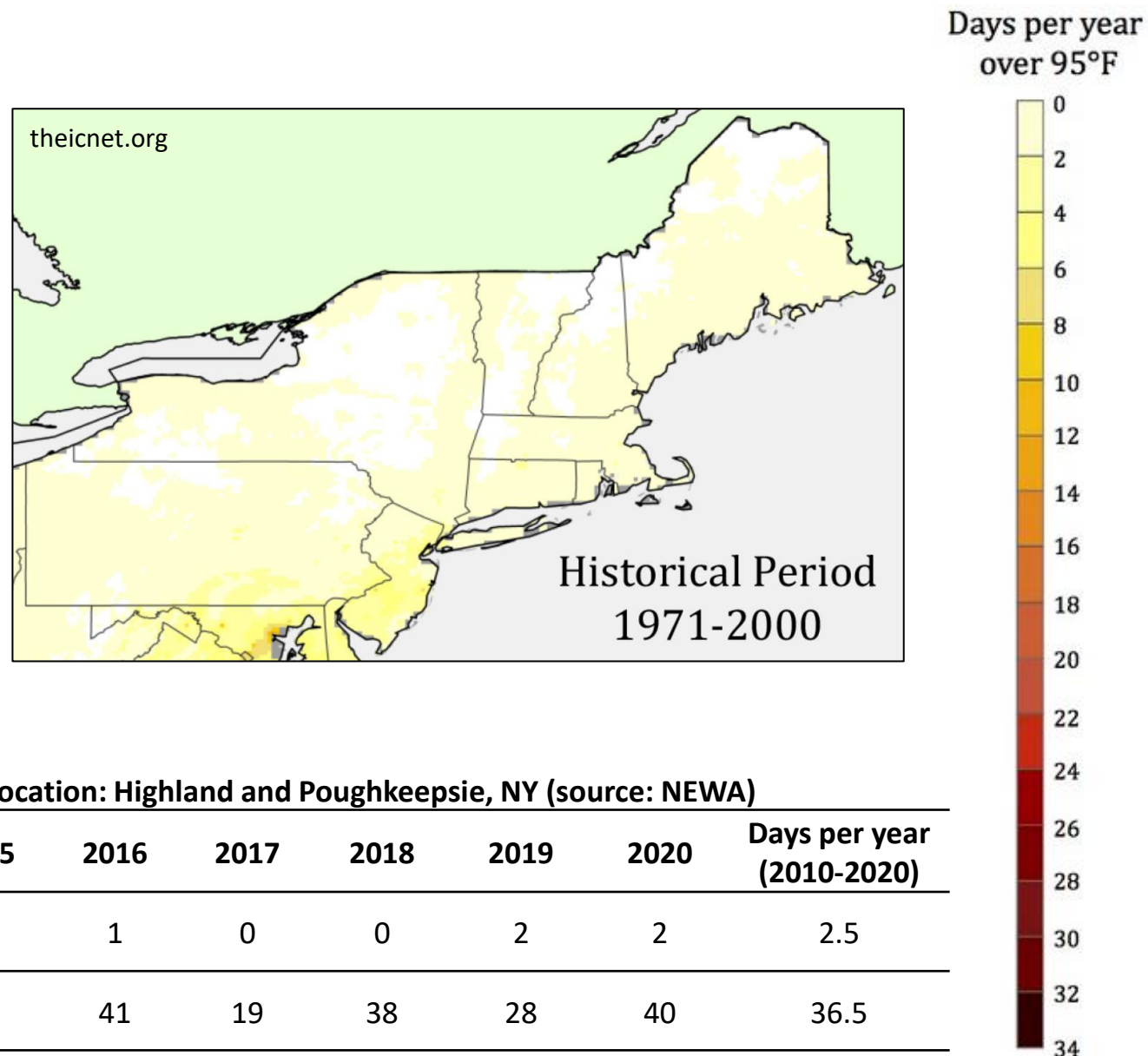
1. Preventive strategies: wind machines, overhead irrigation, heaters.
2. 8 to 10% of all flowers to set a good crop
3. No bloom thinning if 40% king bloom is injured
4. No thinning at all if over 80% of total flower is damaged



Get Ready For 2050s

By the year 2055, according to NESDIS – NOAA, the Hudson Valley region will likely experience an **additional 6-12 days with a maximum temperature exceeding 95°F** (scenar-ios.globalchange.gov).

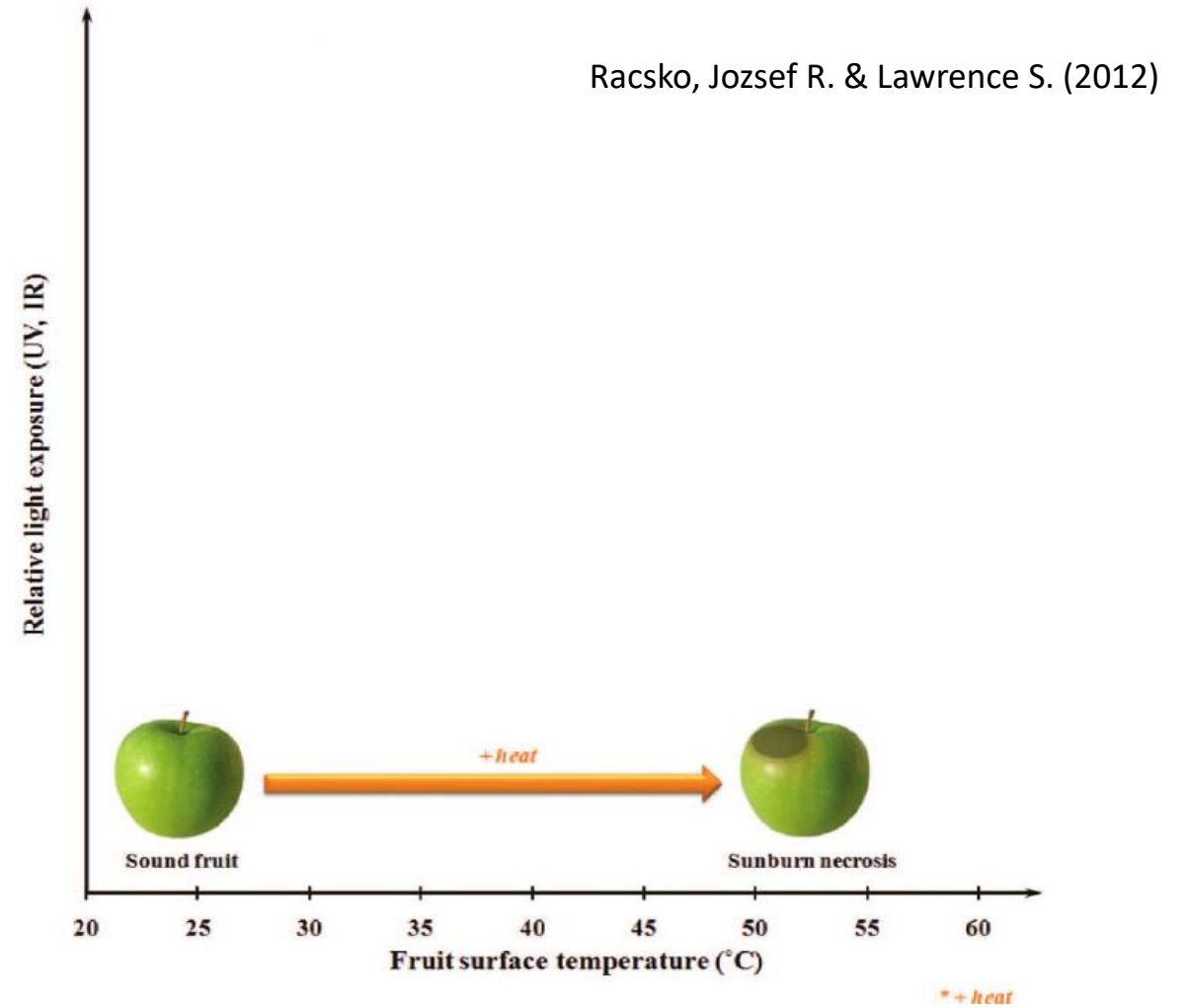
This trend would likely cause an increase of the occurrence of temperature dependent types of sunburn.



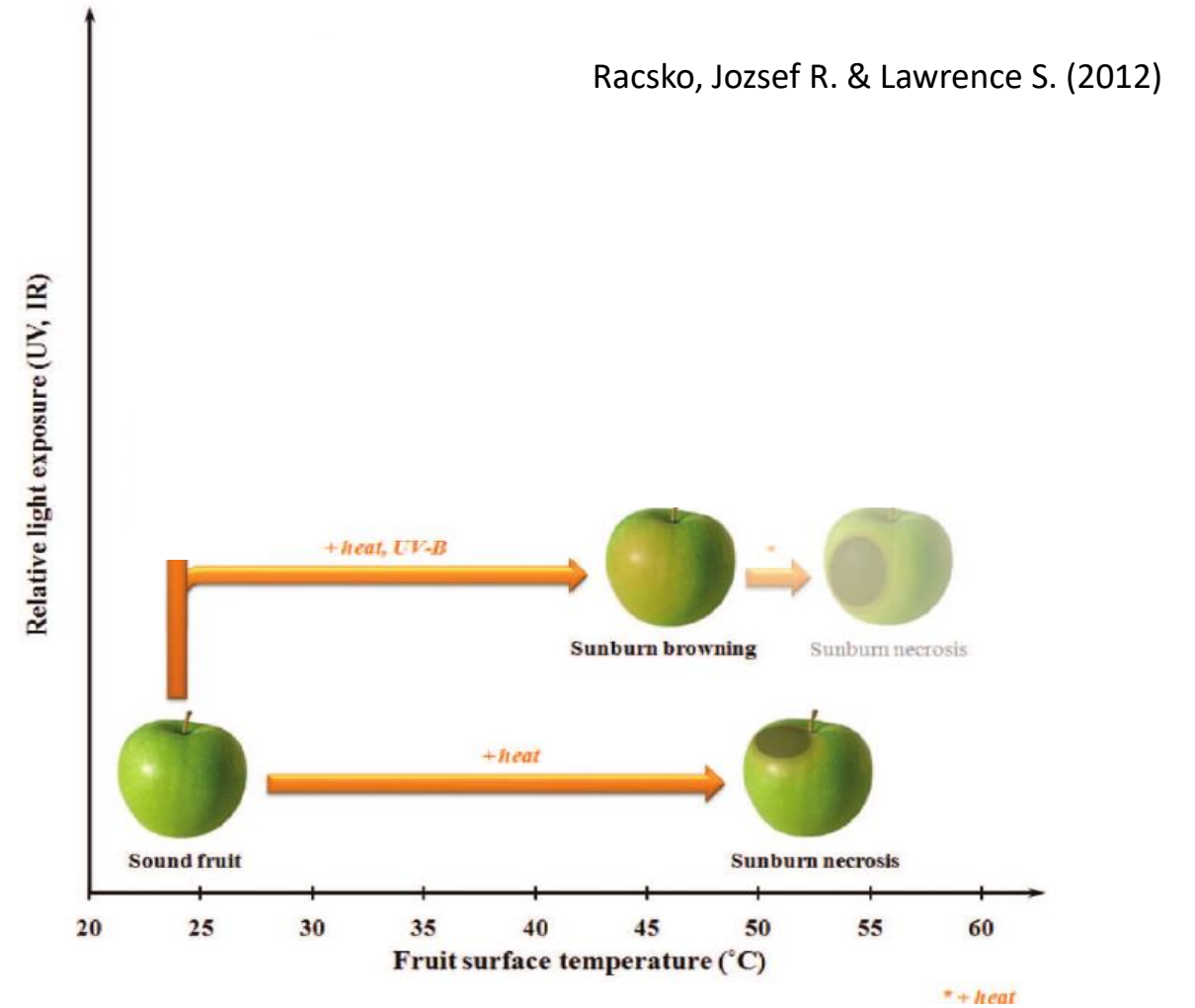
Growing Season (1-Mar to 31-Oct), Location: Highland and Poughkeepsie, NY (source: NEWA)

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Days per year (2010-2020)
Days per year over 35°C/95°F	6	5	6	2	0	3	1	0	0	2	2	2.5
Days per year over 30°C/86°F	54	30	43	28	27	54	41	19	38	28	40	36.5

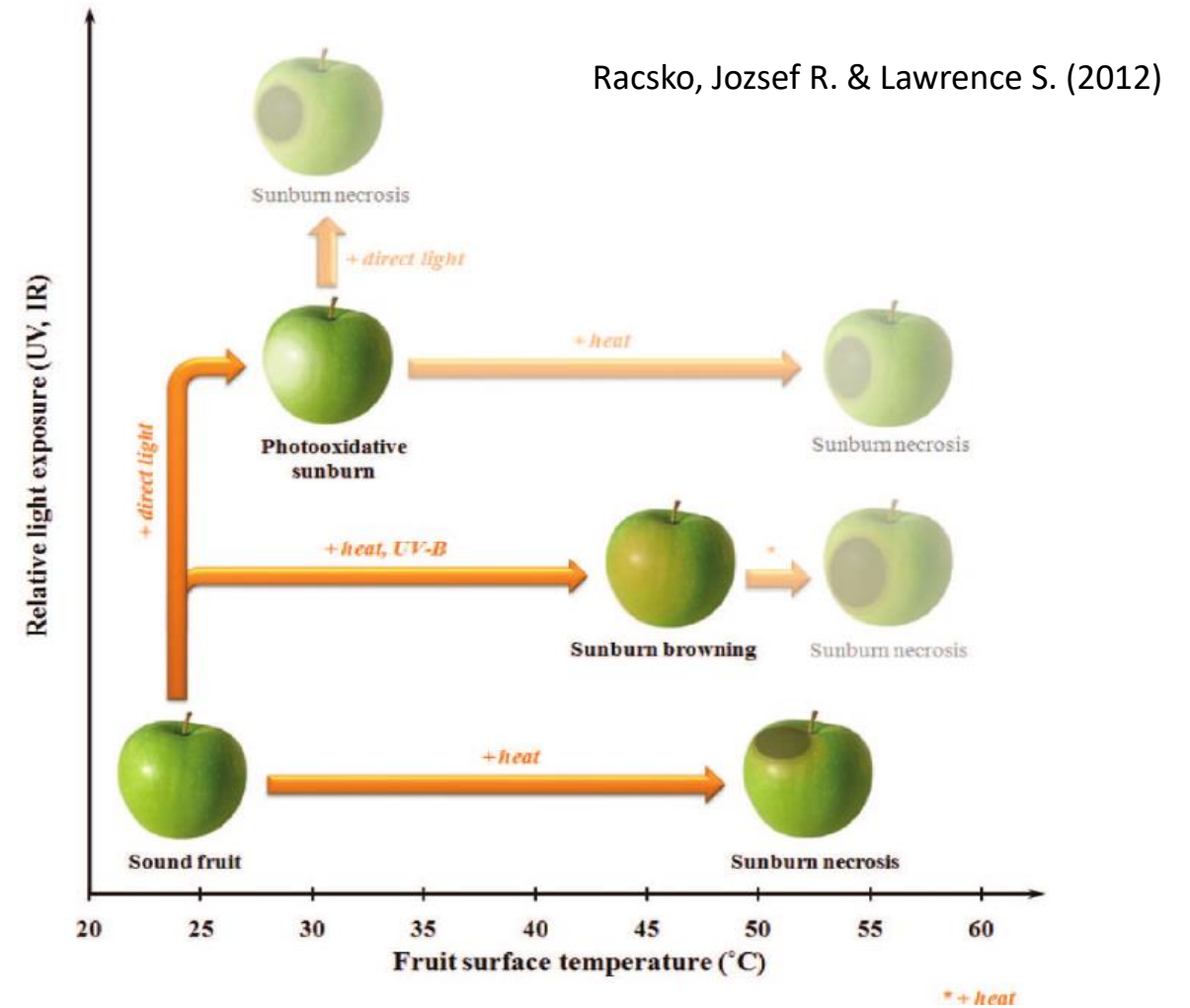
Temperature Dependent Sunburn Type: Necrosis



Temperature Dependent Sunburn Type: Browning



Temperature Independent Sunburn Type: Photooxidative

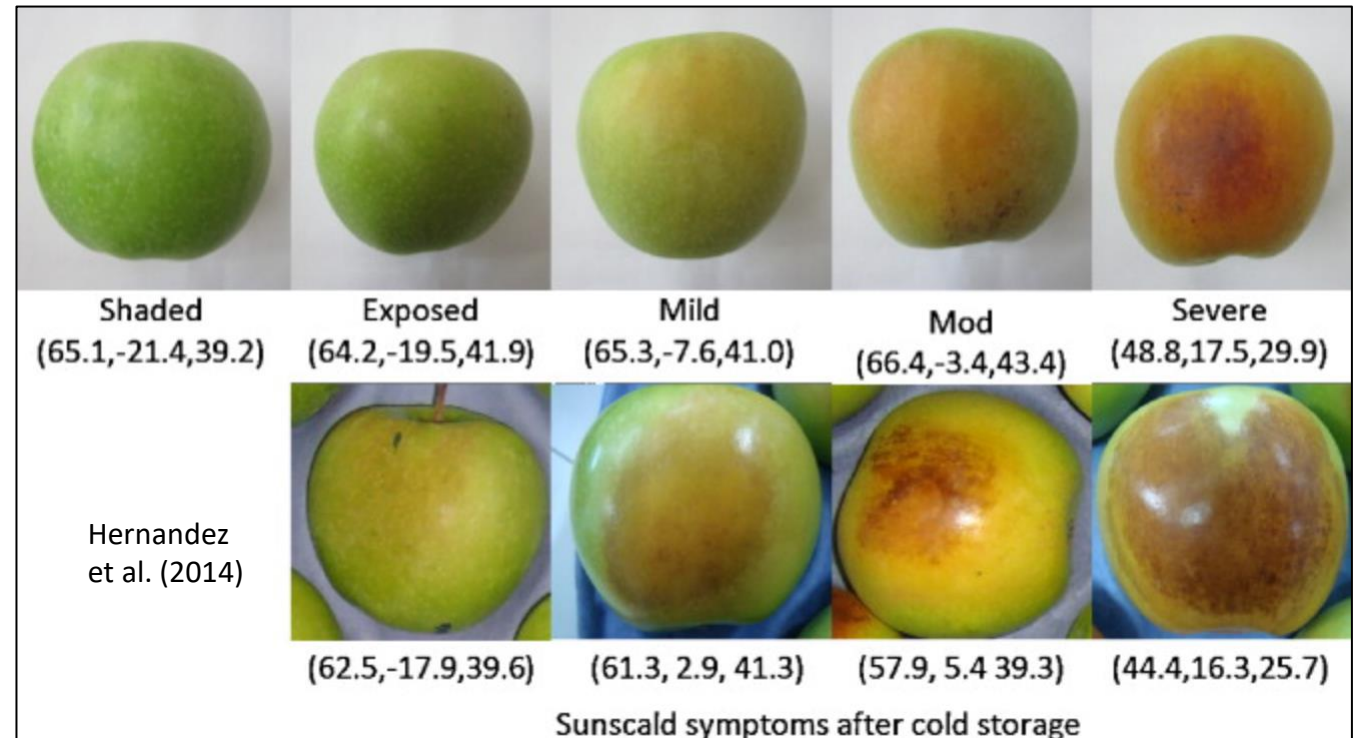


Undetected Sunburn Turns Into A Financial Loss: Sunscald

Delayed sunburn or sunscald: fruit surface browning that appears after storage.

\$100 million in losses every year in both Washington State.

Sunscald models predict the likelihood of sunscald development after a cold storage so fruit that's likely to develop damage in storage can be sold quickly.



Predicting Factors: Fruit Surface Temperature (FST) vs. Air Temperature

Air temperature provides the most convenient indicator of risk.



Air Temperature	Risk Level
$\geq 40^{\circ}\text{C} / 104^{\circ}\text{F}$	High Risk of Sunburn Necrosis
$\geq 35^{\circ}\text{C} / 95^{\circ}\text{F}$	High Risk of Sunburn Browning
$30 \text{ to } 35^{\circ}\text{C} / 86 \text{ to } 95^{\circ}\text{F}$	Variable Risk, Depending on Other Risk Factors

Other Factors That Increase The Risk of Sunburn

Calm days - hot, sunny, and calm days increase the risk.

Cool, cloudy weather followed by clear-sky days greater than 30°C.

Air humidity and drought - water stress on hot days.

Bare fallow between the tree rows - reflecting additional heat into the tree canopy.

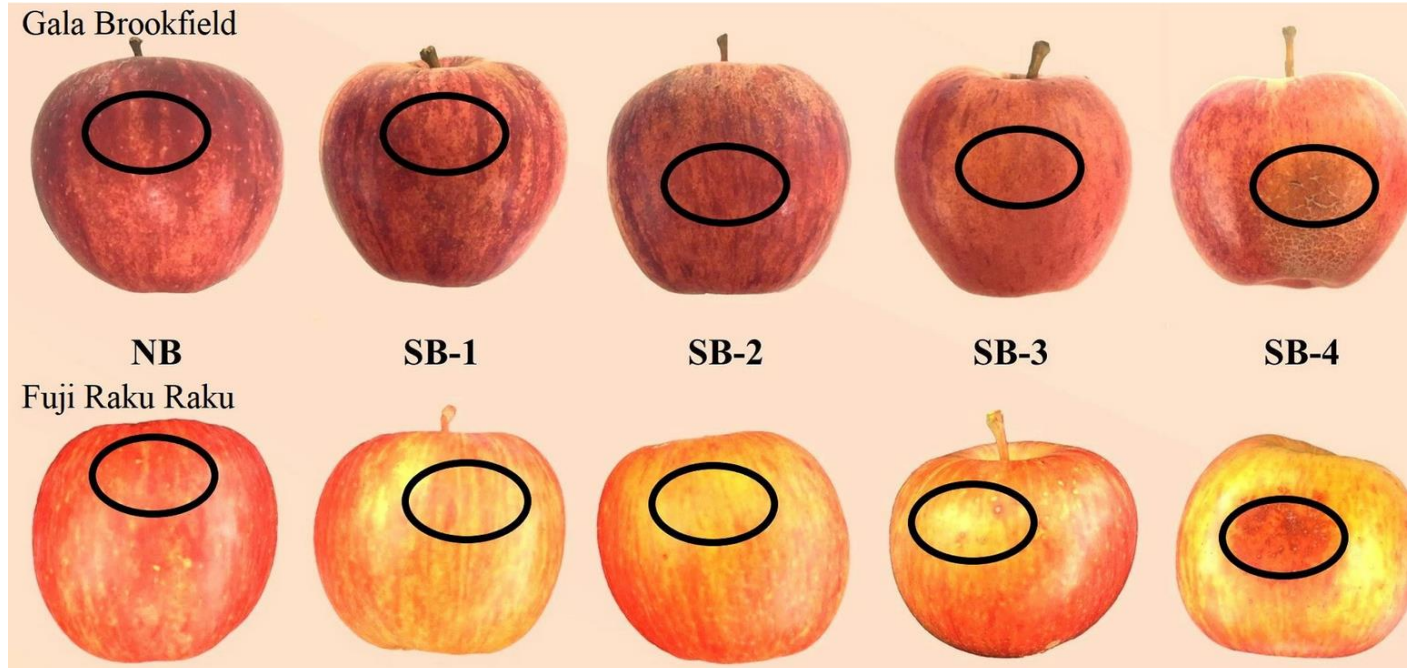
Sudden exposure to the direct sunlight - summer pruning, picked apples in bins.

Production style - high density orchard, dwarfing rootstocks, training system with a good light penetration.



Other Factors That Increase The Risk of Sunburn

Olivares-Soto et al. (2020)



Sensitive Varieties:

Granny Smith

Royal Gala

Jonagold

Braeburn

Golden Supreme

Ginger Gold

Golden Delicious

Fuji

Cameo

Honeycrisp





Snow Sweet

Lotze, Daiber & Midgley (2017)



Figure 1. Sunburn classification for GD adapted by Daiber [3]

Products Used In 2020 Season Trial

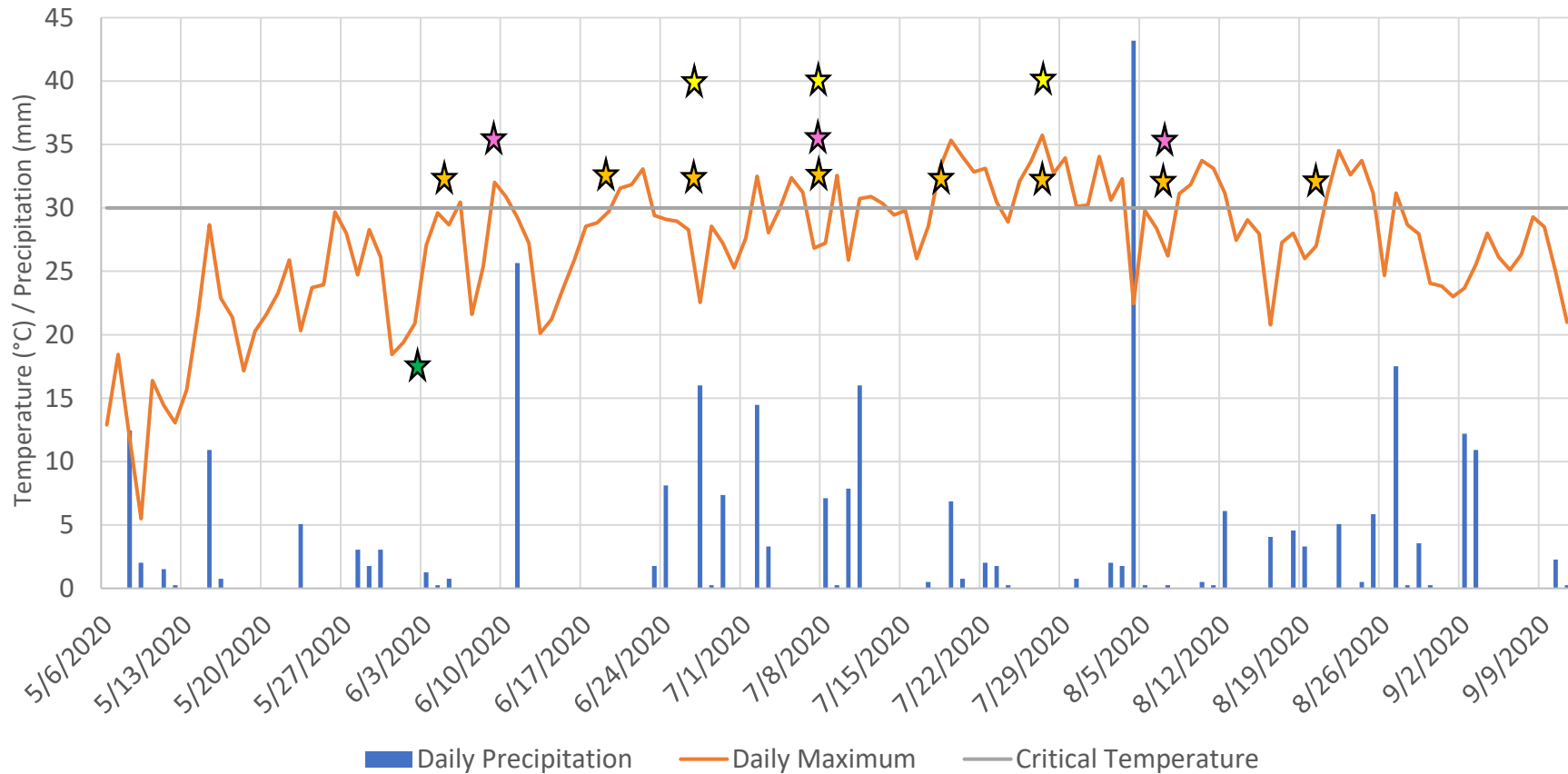
Materials	Description & Ingredients	Mode of Action	Company
	- carnauba wax, organically modified clay, and emulsifiers	- particle film reduces the amount of UV and visible light that reaches the fruit surface	Valent
	- blend of phospholipids	- a supplement for cuticle development of the growing fruit and foliage	Cultiva
	- pine resin emulsion composed of 96% di-1-p-Menthene	- a physical barrier to water vapor loss from plant tissues	Miller Chemical
	- complete exclusion protective netting system, white color	- shading effect	Drape Net North America

List Of Treatments

Treatment	Rate	Spray/Installation Date
1. Raynox Plus	1 Gal/A	26-June; 7-July; and 27-July
2. Parka	1 Gal/A	8-June; 7-July; and 6-August
3. Vapor Gard	1 Gal/A	4-, 18-, 26-June; 7-, 18-, 27-July; and 6-, 20-August
4. White Drape Net		2-June, and removed on 11-Sep (Honeycrisp) and 25-Sep (Snow Sweet)
5. White Drape Net + 1 WAH*		2-June, and removed on 18-Sep (Honeycrisp) and 1 Oct (Snow Sweet)
6. White Drape Net + 2 WAH		2-June, and removed on 22-Sep (Honeycrisp) and 6 Oct (Snow Sweet)
*WAH – Week after Harvest		

Daily Maximum And Precipitation From Bloom To Harvest

2020 Season: 2,600 GDD (base 50°F) by Sep 1st (like 2015, the warmest year on record since 1950)



- Tall Spindle, 3 ft x 14 ft
- Honeycrisp (Nic.29.) & Snow Sweet (M.9T337, B.9.)
- CRBD: 9 blocks Honeycrisp & 3 blocks Snow Sweet

Colored stars indicate treatment applications: Raynox Plus – Yellow, Parka – Pink, Vapor Gard – Orange, and Drape Net – Green.

The Treatment Effect On Harvest Parameters

Treatment	Honeycrisp							
	Number of Fruit		Yield per Tree (kg)		Fruit Drop per Tree		Fruit Weight (g)	
UTC	124.3	ab	19.1	ab	19.1	d	177.9	c
Raynox Plus	125.6	a	22.7	a	20.7	cd	202.9	a
Parka	92.6	bc	16.2	bc	24.9	bcd	188.4	b
Vapor Gard	104.3	ab	19.4	ab	24.3	bc	192.3	ab
White Drape Net	102.6	abc	17.4	bc	31.4	b	188.4	bc
White Drape Net +1WAH	95.0	abc	15.8	bc	56.3	a	199.5	ab
White Drape Net +2WAH	76.3	c	13.1	c	65.6	a	192.8	ab
p [†] or ChiSq [‡] -statistics	0.0177 [†]		0.0082 [†]		<.0001 [†]		<.0001 [‡]	

UTC – Untreated Control
WAH – Week after Harvest

The Treatment Effect On Harvest Parameters

Treatment	Snow Sweet			
	Number of Fruit	Yield per Tree (kg)	Fruit Drop per Tree	Fruit Weight (g)
UTC	58.0	10.2	1.3	168.4 e
Raynox Plus	88.7	15.4	1.3	186.4 d
Parka	77.7	14.3	1.0	194.2 cd
Vapor Gard	97.7	17.4	3.7	209.6 ab
White Drape Net	86.7	15.2	5.0	186.2 d
White Drape Net +1WAH	87.3	15.2	3.0	197.3 bc
White Drape Net +2WAH	66.0	13.1	9.0	214.2 a
p-statistics	0.1056	0.1333	0.1014	<.0001

UTC – Untreated Control

WAH – Week after Harvest

The Treatment Effect On Fruit Chemistry

Treatment	Honeycrisp						
	Fruit Firmness (kg)		Soluble Solids Concentration		TA (g/100mL as malic acid)		
	(B-side)	(NB-side)	(B-side)	(NB-side)	(B-side)	(NB-side)	
UTC	7.5 ab	7.4 a	14.0	13.2	0.51	0.50	
Raynox Plus	7.3 ab	7.1 ab	14.5	13.4	0.52	0.53	
Parka	7.5 a	7.3 ab	14.2	13.6	0.53	0.53	
Vapor Gard	7.5 ab	7.2 ab	14.1	13.0	0.51	0.51	
White Drape Net	7.4 ab	7.4 a	13.8	13.0	0.52	0.54	
White Drape Net +1WAH	7.3 b	7.1 b	14.5	13.3	0.50	0.50	
White Drape Net +2WAH	7.2 b	7.2 ab	13.4	12.7	0.50	0.50	
ChiSq -statistics	0.0005	0.0004	0.4348	0.999	0.9449	0.8256	

B – Sun exposed side.

NB – Shade side.

UTC – Untreated Control.

WAH – Week after Harvest.

The Treatment Effect On Fruit Chemistry

Treatment	Snow Sweet					
	Fruit Firmness (kg)		Soluble Solids Concentration		TA (g/100mL as malic acid)	
	(B-side)	(NB-side)	(B-side)	(NB-side)	(B-side)	(NB-side)
UTC	7.9 abc	7.6 ab	14.1	13.0	0.46	0.47
Raynox Plus	7.9 bc	7.4 bc	13.4	12.0	0.39	0.38
Parka	8.2 ab	7.7 ab	13.5	12.3	0.39	0.39
Vapor Gard	7.8 c	7.2 c	13.0	12.4	0.39	0.44
White Drape Net	8.4 a	8.1 a	13.0	12.0	0.39	0.39
White Drape Net +1WAH	8.0 abc	7.9 a	13.0	12.2	0.39	0.39
White Drape Net +2WAH	7.9 bc	7.9 a	13.5	12.8	0.40	0.40
p-statistics	<.0001	<.0001	0.8035	0.2666	0.6819	0.1227

B – Sun exposed side.

NB – Shade side.

UTC – Untreated Control.

WAH – Week after Harvest.

The Treatment Effect On Fruit Color

Treatment	Honeycrisp							
	Hue		a*/b*		Hue		a*/b*	
	(B-side)				(NB-side)			
								Blush (%)
UTC	-42.9	a	0.9	c	-33.3	b	0.2	b
Raynox Plus	-45.6	bc	1.2	b	-34.6	b	0.4	b
Parka	-43.6	a	1.0	c	-33.8	b	0.3	b
Vapor Gard	-46.7	c	1.3	ab	-31.8	a	0.2	b
White Drape Net	-44.4	ab	1.0	c	-33.2	ab	0.2	b
White Drape Net +1WAH	-46.9	c	1.4	a	-36.2	c	0.5	a
White Drape Net +2WAH	-46.7	c	1.5	a	-37.6	c	0.7	a
ChiSq-statistics	<.0001 [‡]		<.0001 [‡]		<.0001 [‡]		<.0001 [‡]	

B – Sun exposed side.

NB – Shade side.

UTC – Untreated Control.

WAH – Week after Harvest.

The Treatment Effect On Fruit Color

Treatment	Snow Sweet									
	Hue		a*/b*		Hue		a*/b*		Blush (%)	
	B-side				NB-side					
UTC	-50.2	ab	2.4	a	-42.7	b	1.4	a	77.2	a
Raynox Plus	-49.3	ab	2.1	ab	-39.0	a	0.8	c	69.4	c
Parka	-51.0	b	2.4	a	-39.1	ab	0.8	bc	70.4	bc
Vapor Gard	-48.3	a	1.8	b	-40.6	ab	1.0	abc	68.2	c
White Drape Net	-49.1	ab	2.3	a	-41.0	ab	1.1	ab	75.1	ab
White Drape Net +1WAH	-49.6	ab	2.3	a	-41.6	ab	1.1	ab	74.2	abc
White Drape Net +2WAH	-50.6	ab	2.3	a	-41.7	ab	1.2	a	71.9	abc
ChiSq-statistics	0.0088		<.0001		0.0117		<.0001		<.0001	

B – Sun exposed side.

NB – Shade side.

UTC – Untreated Control.

WAH – Week after Harvest.

The Treatment Effect On Honeycrisp Sunburn Incidence

Treatment	'Honey Crisp'		
	Total Sunburn (%)	PS (%)	SB (%)
UTC	9.6	0.7	8.9
Raynox Plus	11.5	2.6	8.5
Parka	8.9	1.5	7.4
Vapor Gard	12.6	2.6	10.0
White Drape Net	11.5	1.1	10.7
White Drape Net +1WAH	13.8	0.6	13.2
White Drape Net +2WAH	10.8	1.5	9.4
ChiSq -statistics	0.4702	0.1627	0.3198

UTC – Untreated Control.

WAH – Week after Harvest.

SB – Sunburn Browning

PS – Photooxidative Sunburn.



UTC



Raynox Plus



Parka



Vapor Gard



White Drape Net



White Drape Net +1WAH



White Drape Net +2WAH

The Treatment Effect On Snow Sweet Sunburn Incidence

Treatment	'Snow Sweet'		
	Total Sunburn (%)	PS (%)	SB (%)
UTC	32.2	1.1	31.1
Raynox Plus	30.0	0.0	30.0
Parka	31.1	1.1	30.0
Vapor Gard	26.7	0.0	26.7
White Drape Net	30.0	0.0	30.0
White Drape Net +1WAH	34.4	1.1	33.3
White Drape Net +2WAH	33.3	0.0	33.3
<i>p</i> -statistics	0.8549	0.6785	0.9298

Factor	Fruit Surface Temperature (°C)	
	Aug 11 th AAT 31.2°C	Aug 31 st AAT 22.1°C
UTC	29.9 a	19.3 a
Raynox Plus	30.6 a	19.5 a
Parka	30.1 a	19.4 a
Vapor Gard	29.7 a	18.9 b
White Drape Net	30.8 a	19.5 a
ANOVA (<i>p</i> -value)	0.8468	0.0246



UTC



Raynox Plus



Parka



Vapor Gard



White Drape Net



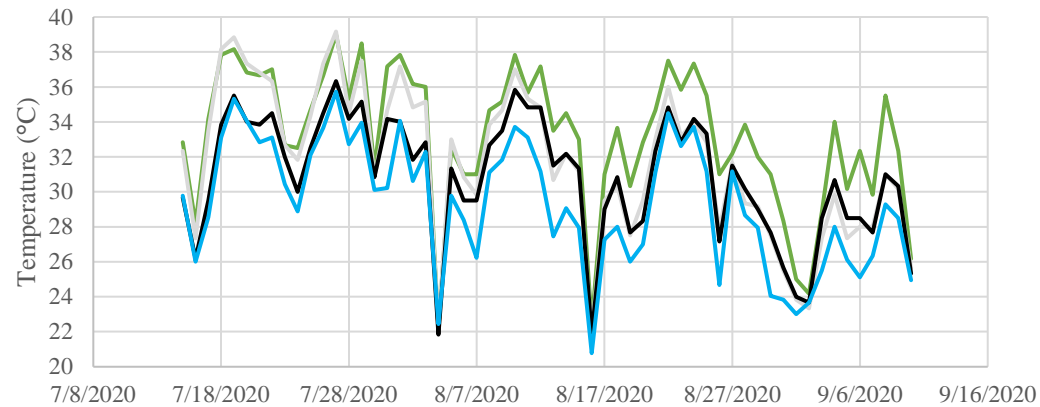
White Drape Net +1WAH



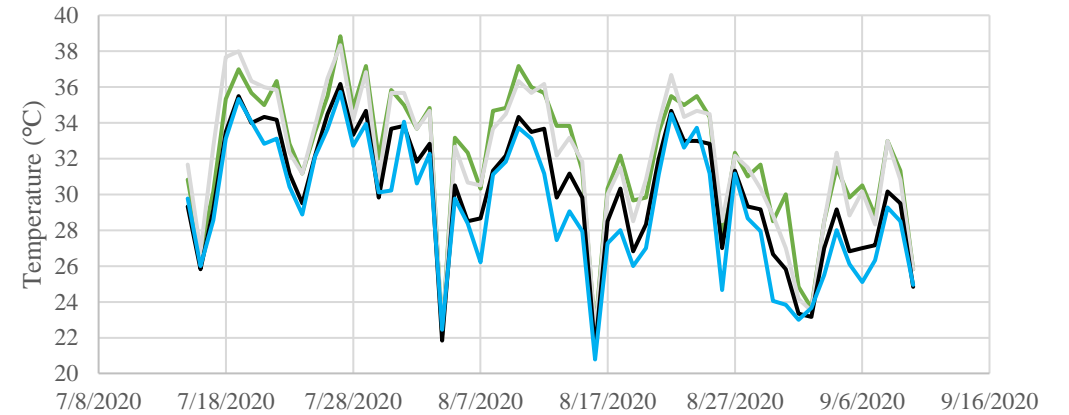
White Drape Net +2WAH

Maximum Daily Temperature of the Tall Spindle Canopy Recorded from 7/15 to 9/10/2020

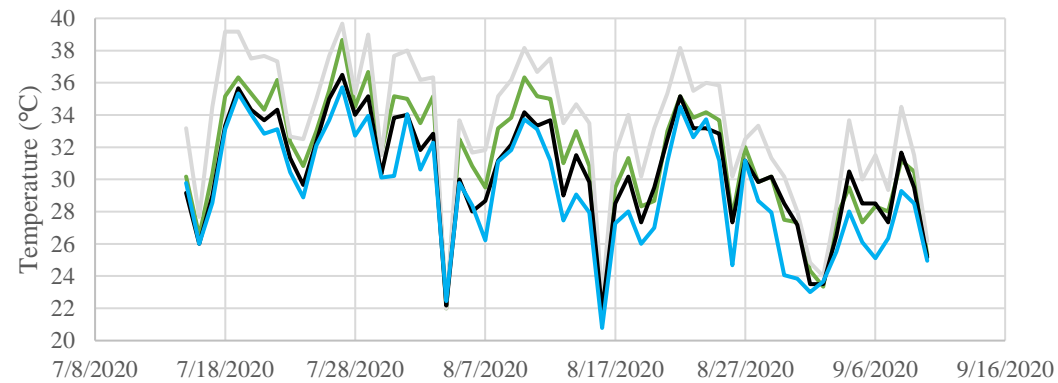
Upper Canopy



Medium Canopy



Lower Canopy



UTC White DN Black DN Air

Honeycrisp's Fruit Surface Temperature Measured on August 11 and 31, 2020.



Factor	Fruit Surface Temperature (°C)	
	Aug 11	Aug 31
Treatment		
<i>UTC</i>	28.5 a	19.8 a
<i>White Drape Net</i>	28.6 a	20.5 a
<i>Black Drape Net</i>	27.0 b	18.1 b
ANOVA (<i>p</i> -value)	<.0001	<.0001
Canopy Position		
<i>Upper Canopy</i>	28.6 a	20.1 a
<i>Middle Canopy</i>	28.0 ab	19.3 b
<i>Lower Canopy</i>	27.6 b	19.0 b
ANOVA (<i>p</i> -value)	0.0142	0.0117
Row Side		
<i>East</i>	29.9 a	21.7 a
<i>West</i>	26.1 b	17.2 b
ANOVA (<i>p</i> -value)	<.0001	<.0001

Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at $\alpha=0.05$ according to Student's t-test.

UTC – Untreated Control.

Average air temperature on Aug 11, during period the FST measurements took place, from 9am to 2.30pm, was 30.4°C.

Average air temperature on Aug 31, during period the FST measurements took place, from 11am to 13pm was 20.5°C.

Intercepted Light in Honeycrisp Trees Covered with Drape Net,
Measured on August 1 and 14, 2020.

Factor Treatment	Share of PAR intercepted by the canopy (%)
<i>UTC</i>	24.3 ab
<i>White Drape Net</i>	29.3 a
<i>Black Drape Net</i>	18.1 b
ANOVA (<i>p</i> -value)	0.0159
Canopy Position	
<i>Upper Canopy</i>	52.4 a
<i>Middle Canopy</i>	12.7 b
<i>Lower Canopy</i>	6.6 c
ANOVA (<i>p</i> -value)	<.0001

Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at $\alpha=0.05$ according to Student's t-test.

UTC – Untreated Control.

Level of the photosynthetic active radiation (PAR) was measured on August 1 and 14, 2020





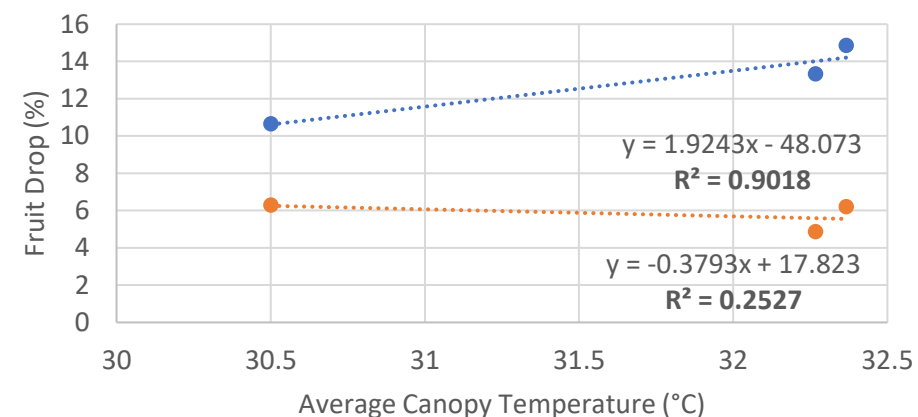
www.uoguelph.ca

Drape Net Effect on Honeycrisp’s Per-Harvest Fruit Drop

Treatment	Fruit Set (%)	June Drop (%)	Number of Fruits at Harvest (Sep. 9)	Yield per tree (kg)	Pre-Harvest Drop (%)
<i>UTC</i>	15.3	4.9	95.1	19.1	13.3
<i>White Drape Net</i>	17.4	6.2	109.7	20.1	14.9
<i>Black Drape Net</i>	14.8	6.3	99.0	16.8	10.7
ANOVA (<i>p</i> -value)	0.1729	0.5725	0.3867	0.1495	0.3808
Means followed by the same letter are not significantly different at $\alpha=0.05$ according to Student’s t-test. UTC – Untreated Control.					

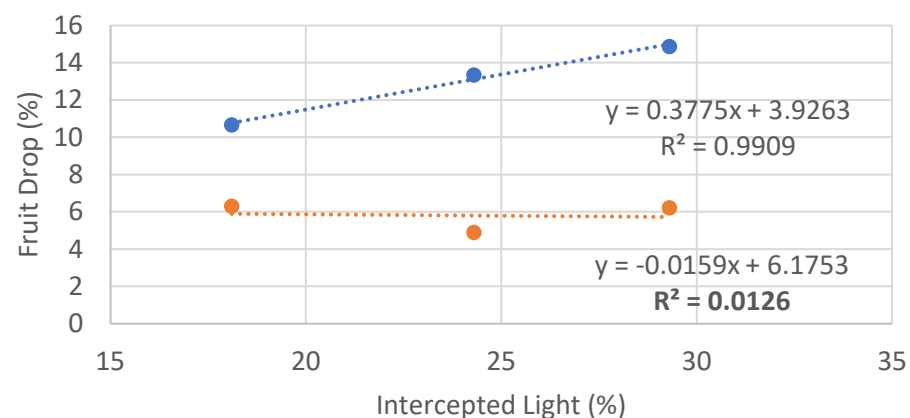


Do Canopy Temperature And FST Affect Fruit Drop?

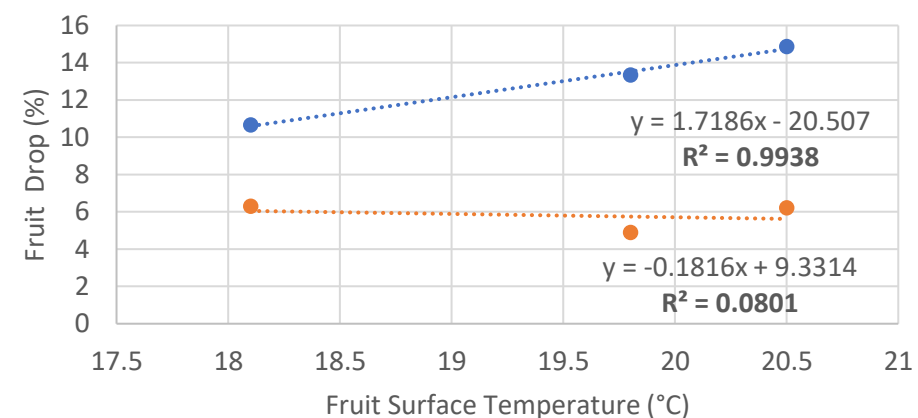


● Pre-Harvest Drop ● June Drop
 Linear (Pre-Harvest Drop) Linear (June Drop)

Does the Intercepted Light Affect Fruit Drop?



● Pre-Harvest Drop ● June Drop
 Linear (Pre-Harvest Drop) Linear (June Drop)



● Pre-Harvest Drop ● June Drop
 Linear (Pre-Harvest Drop) Linear (June Drop)

Sunburn Damage: Conclusions

1. The postponed harvest of Drape Net covered Honeycrisp can improve fruit color development.
2. Spray products (Raynox Plus®, Parka™, and Vapor Gard®) and Drape Net White did not control sunburn incidence in Honeycrisp and Snow Sweet in 2020.
3. Additional shading and altered canopy temperature caused by Drape Net does not affect June drop. However, more light penetration into the canopy and higher FST promote pre-harvest drop.



Thank You For Your Attention

Drape Net®



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Meaghan McElroy

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When to Apply a Frost-Rescue Spray?

Year	2012	2016
Growth Stage	Full Bloom	Green Tip/ Tight Cluster
Temperature	High 20s	Low 20s



- Between pink stage to petal fall.
- Promalin: 2 pints/A in 75-150 gallons of water, within 24 hours of the frost event.
- Best results if applied after hard frost (lower than 29°F) when there is significant flower damage.
- 8 to 10% of all flowers to set a good crop.

How Does It Work?

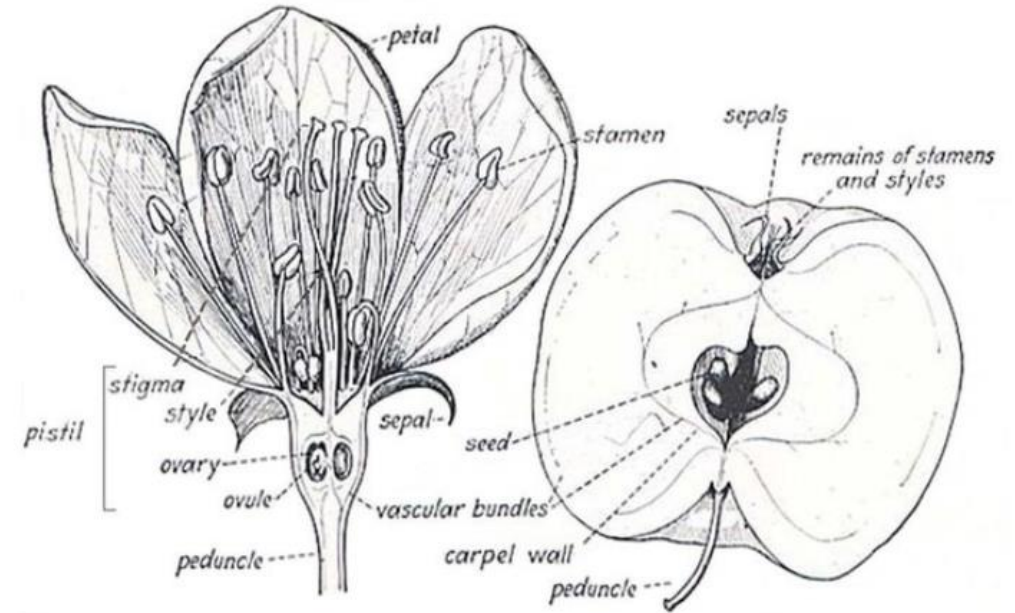


Photo credit: Peter William Edward Kearns

- **Perlan**® (Fine Agrochemicals Limited) & **Promalin**® (Valent BioSciences Corporation)
 - N-(phenylmethyl)-1H-purine 6-amine (1.8% w/w)
 - Gibberellins A₄A₇ (1.8% w/w)
- Supplemental label (2EE) in New York for frost damage remediation in apples during the bloom period, within 24 hours after the frost event.
- The gibberellins in Promalin mimic those that would have been produced by the non-existent seeds in the damaged fruitlets. As a result, the seedless fruit remain on the tree.