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Site specific applications via integration of existing weather networks and proven predictive models

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Integration of existing weather networks with established predictive models provides a significant value-added product for farmers and field professionals.

Network for Environment & Weather App's

NEWA delivers weather data from weather stations primarily located on farms via <u>newa.cornell.edu</u>. NEWA generates weather data summaries and IPM forecast model results.

Degree days for 10 base temperatures and results for 22 IPM forecast models are calculated and displayed. NEWA provides a portal to weather and IPM forecast products from other groups (NOAA, NRCC, MSU, NWS, ipmPIPE, PA PIPE, and the North American Plant Disease Forecast Center).

NYNEWA

NY NEWA weather stations are owned primarily by farmers, and also by the NYS IPM Program, Cornell University faculty, and agricultural industries.



The VT NEWA weather stations, complete with all sensors for disease and insect modeling, are in our primary apple growing regions and represent the variability of our farm sites, the Champlain Valley, the Champlain Islands, the Connecticut River Valley and upland interior sites.

Vermont fruit growers overwhelmingly support VT NEWA....

60% are accessing VT NEWA, 67% are reducing sprays and improving efficacy,

33% are saving spray costs,

17% are improving farm labor efficiency. ...when using VT NEWA.

Most stations were funded by the Vermont Tree Fruit Growers Association through the Specialty Crops Block Program, with technical support from the University of Vermont Fruit Team.



Increased coverage of the network could increase usage.



KUTGERS New Jersey Agricultural

Experiment Station

Our goal is to develop site specific applications for pests and diseases of New Jersey fruit and vegetable crops such as apples, cranberries, blueberries, grapes, tomatoes and potatoes (combined value of \$200 million annually, USDA NASS 2011).



Massachusetts

Amherst

Fire blight

As of March 2012, MA NEWA includes 17 on-farm weather stations (13 Rainwise, 4 Onset) and 23 airport/other locations in Massachusetts, reporting data to NEWA.

> From March-September, 2011, about one-in-five visits to NEWA were from Massachusetts.

> > Weather stations have been funded through a combination of grower self-purchase, UMass Center for Agriculture, the Northeast Regional IPM Center and USDA/NIFA Extension Integrated Pest Management Coordination and Support Program (EIPM-CS).



The Vermont NEWA network supports over 80 apple farms with gross farmgate receipts of \$15 million annually.

Apple Models Apple scab Fire blight Sooty blotch & flyspeck Apple maggot Codling moth Plum curculio Obliquebanded leafroller Spotted tentiform leafminer Oriental fruit moth

Our future focus will be on improving the sooty blotch & flyspeck model.

coordinates a network as part of a project with Eco Apple growers and advanced apple IPM research, including three stations at apple orchards in southern VT and NH and one in CT. Some Eco Apple growers use the NY and VT networks.

The University of Massachusetts



The Eco Orchard network, which is spread out around New England and New York, provides growers with valuable daily information that the project could not provide with on the ground scouting.

Growers use information from the NEWA network to provide real-time, biologically-based modeling that assists in the efficient management of diseases and insects.



Grape Models Powdery mildew Phomopsis Black rot Downy mildew Grape berry moth





For grapes, four specialized weather stations designed specifically to collect data needed to drive the disease models will be placed in commercial vineyards. These stations are designed to send data back to the office of the state meteorologist and subsequently upload data to the NEWA site. Funding for this aspect of the project was provided by a Wine Industry Grant.

The project will target field evaluation of the systems in the 2012 season. We also will provide outreach to grape, apple and vegetable growers through weekly reports, newsletters and seminars.



Most MA NEWA weather stations are on diversified, direct market fruit and vegetable farms.

> Grower response has been overwhelmingly positive, especially from apple growers who use the apple scab, fire blight, and plum curculio models to enhance decision-making and timing of control sprays.



Models Used Apple models Grape models Potato late blight TomCast Stewart's wilt Curcurbit downy mildew

Center for Agriculture University of Massachusetts Amherst



Growers were introduced to MA NEWA via meetings, newsletter articles, and one-on-one training.

> It's a great source of real-time information. Growers are very positive.



Model Wish List Apple thinning Residue depletion Chilling hours Apple powdery mildew Cherry leaf spot Mummy berry NEWA-connected stations can be found throughout much of the Northeast

NJ NEWA

In New Jersey, the office of the State Climatologist maintains three weather networks (MesoNet, SafteyNet and RISE) which includes over 60 stations distributed across the state. In 2011 we added these NJ weather networks to the NEWA system to provide site specific disease and insect prediction models.

MA NEWA

NOAA NWS data from airports in NY, MA, VT, NJ, and adjacent states, have been incorporated into the network.



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