Japanese Beetle—**ALERT**

Dean Volenberg

Brian Emerson at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station reported the first appearance of Japanese beetle this week. For growers that have an annual problem with Japanese beetle, the appearance of the beetle typically occurs at or near bunch closure. Although Japanese beetle has been a pest in southern Wisconsin vineyards for a number of years, it remains a sporadic pest in the northern half of Wisconsin. However, Japanese beetle populations seem to be increasing in the Green Bay area. In Door County, Japanese beetle is seldom reported. When Japanese beetle is reported, generally the hosts are annual ornamental plants. Interestingly, in Door County, numerous annual reports of the pest are mainly all from the Sister Bay area.

At this time the pest is just starting to emerge and populations are still low so control is not suggested. Japanese beetle has one generation per year. The female beetles mate and lay their eggs in grassy areas and the larval stage feeds on the roots of grasses. The larvae pupate and the adult beetles emerge the following year in late June or early July in Wisconsin.

A couple options exist for scouting for Japanese beetle. The beetles prefer to feed on grape leaves high in the canopy and on the sunny side of the canopy. When scouting for Japanese beetle look for skeletonized leaves high in the canopy or look for the beetles themselves. Grapes are one of the preferred hosts of Japanese beetle, but more than 300 host plants have been identified. Another way to scout for Japanese beetle is to use a Japanese beetle pheromone trap. The trap can give you an early indication if Japanese beetles have arrived. However, the traps should not be used to control Japanese beetle. The traps tend to draw surrounding beetles to the plants you are trying to protect from Japanese beetle damage. So if you use a trap for an early indicator of Japanese beetle, remove the trap from vineyard area once you catch beetles within the trap.

Japanese beetle can be controlled with a number of different insecticides. If you have an annual problem with Japanese beetle, you should consider using a neonicotinoid such as Assail, Actara, or Belay). The neonicotinoids move into the leaf and form a residual of insecticide within the leaf; this translaminar activity and will result in residual control of Japanese beetle. For more insecticide options see page 18 of the 2012 Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide.

Newly established grapes should be protected from Japanese beetle. Severe skeletonizing of young grape plants can result in increasing the period from planting to fruit bearing vines. So remember to scout newly established grapes for Japanese beetle and apply management options if needed.
What’s lurking in or near the vineyard this week?

Early coloration of a berry or berries in a grape cluster is an indicator that Grape berry moth may be (GBM) present. When scouting clusters for GBM look for early coloration of berries or berries webbed together. The pictures above are from wild grapes at PARS on 7.2.2012.

Another indicator of GBM in clusters, mum-mified berries (left). Picture from wild grapes at PARS on 7.2.2012.
Development of wine grapes in the grape variety trials at the Peninsular Agricultural Research Station (PARS) Sturgeon Bay, WI and West Madison Agricultural Research Station (WMARS), Madison, WI

Brianna at PARS 7.2.2012
Brianna at WMARS 7.2.2012
Foch at PARS 7.2.2012
Foch at WMARS 7.2.2012
Frontenac at PARS 7.2.2012
Frontenac at WMARS 7.2.2012
Development of wine grapes in the grape variety trials at the Peninsular Agricultural Research Station (PARS) Sturgeon Bay, WI and West Madison Agricultural Research Station (WMARS), Madison, WI

La Crescent at WMARS 7.2.2012

La Crosse at WMARS 7.2.2012

La Crescent at PARS 7.2.2012

La Crosse at PARS 7.2.2012

Marquette at PARS 7.2.2012

Marquette at WMARS 7.2.2012
Development of wine grapes in the grape variety trials at the Peninsular Agricultural Research Station (PARS) Sturgeon Bay, WI.
Degree Day\(^1\) (base 50) Accumulation from April 1 to July 1, 2012 at Peninsular Agricultural Research Station in Sturgeon Bay, WI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>5 Year Average(^2)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/1 to 7/1</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>642</td>
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\(^1\)Modified method.  
\(^2\)Average from 2007 to 2011.

Degree Day\(^1\) (base 50) Accumulation from April 1 to July 1, 2012 at West Madison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>5 Year Average(^2)</th>
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\(^1\)Modified method.  
\(^2\)Average from 2007 to 2011.

Accumulated degree days\(^1\) (base 50) for the month of March in Sturgeon Bay and Madison, WI.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Sturgeon Bay WI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GDD (base 50, ceiling 86)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>106</td>
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<tr>
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\(^1\)Modified method.  
\(^2\)Data from http://www.doa.state.wi.us/degreedays/

Please scout your vineyards on a regularly scheduled basis in an effort to manage problem pests. This report contains information on scouting reports from specific locations and may not reflect pest problems in your vineyard. If you would like more information on IPM in grapes, please contact Dean Volenberg at (920)746-2260 or dean.volenberg@ces.uwex.edu
Regional Vineyard Walks
The UW-Extension Fruit Team will be hosting 4 regional summer vineyard walks for 2012, according to Rebecca Harbut, the UW-Extension Fruit Specialist. With the continued growing interest in commercial wine and table grape production in Wisconsin, the Fruit Team decided to host the vineyard walks regionally to reach more growers and those interested in becoming a commercial grower.
Each regional vineyard walk will be hosted by a grape grower with vines in production. The vineyard walk leader will evaluate the vines and answer questions that participants may have about commercial production practices. With the vineyard walks scheduled for 4 different dates, growers can attend the closest walk or attend any of the four if desired. The vineyard walks are held rain or shine so come prepared. Participants are also asked to bring lawn chairs for the grower socializing following the walk.

Northwest Wisconsin
Sunday, July 15, Spirit Creek Vineyard, 3555 Blom Lake Dr., Frederick, WI 1:00-3:00 p.m. Mike and Sue Jahnke and their family started planting Frontenac and Marquette grapes in 2007. They have added La Crescent, Petite Pearl, Brianne and Summerset. Vineyard walk leader is UW-Extension Fruit Specialist Rebecca Harbut. Registration fee is $5 payable at the vineyard walk. Please email the number attending to kevin.schoessow@ces.uwex.edu or call the Spooner Area UW-Extension Office at 715-635-3506. Attendees may bring a wine to share.

Northeast Wisconsin
Saturday, July 21 Himmelgarten Vineyard, 10131 Newton Road, Newton, WI 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Randy and Faye Riester planted their first Baco Noir grapes three years ago so this fall will be their first harvest. Vines are trained on a VSP system with unique in-line posts. Vineyard walk leader is UW-Extension Ag Agent Dean Volenberg. Registration is $20 which will include a catered meal. Attendees may bring a wine to share. Please send payment one week in advance to the Door County UW-Extension Office, Attn. Vineyard Walk, 421 Nebraska St., Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235. If you have questions, email dean.volenberg@ces.uwex.edu 920-746-2260

Southwest Wisconsin
Saturday, August 4 Viriditas Vineyard, E8101 Green Acres Rd., Viroqua, WI 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Jeff and Mary Aderman planted their first Frontenac and Frontenac Gris vines in 2005. Since then they have added La Crescent, Marquette and Brianna. One of the biggest challenges that the vineyard had to experience a couple of years ago was the grape ripe rot infestation. Vineyard walk leader is Mark Hart, a private grape vine breeder from Bayfield, Wisconsin. Registration is $20 which will include a catered meal. Attendees may bring a wine to share. Please send payment one week in advance to the Vernon County UW-Extension Office, Attn. Vineyard Walk, Suite 392, 318 Fairlane Dr., Viroqua, WI 54665. If you have questions, email timothy.rehbein@ces.uwex.edu 608-637-5276

Southeast Wisconsin
Sunday, August 12, Staller Estate Vineyard and Winery, W8896 County Rd. A, Delavan, WI 10:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Joe and Wendy Staller planted their first Frontenac, Foch and La Crescent vines in 2008. They planted with the plans to open a winery of which they did also in 2008. Vineyard walk leader is UW-Extension Fruit Specialist Rebecca Harbut. Registration fee is $30 which will include a catered wine – food pairing meal. The winery is a state licensed facility so attendees are asked not to bring any wine to share. Wine from the Staller Winery will be supplied. Registration is limited to 40 people. Please send payment one week in advance to the Walworth County UW-Extension Office, Attn. Vineyard Walk, PO Box 1001, 100 W. Walworth St., Elkhorn, WI 53121. If you have questions, email peg.reedy@ces.uwex.edu 262-741-4951