

Steam Mill and two fields at Lakeville in Kings County were found to be 5 and 2 per cent infected respectively. In a survey in Cumberland County in mid-July, blighted blossoms and mummy berries were found in the Farmington district where the disease had not been observed previously. The Farmington fields showed 2 per cent infection.

A grower at West Brook, also in Cumberland County, reported a heavy infection of twig and blossom blight in a field not dusted while nearby blueberry fields that were dusted showed a satisfactory control of twig and blossom blight.

The blueberry crop in 1958 was about two-thirds of a normal crop and it is estimated that 15 per cent of the loss was due to twig and blossom blight.

Frost damage to lowbush blueberries

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Lowbush blueberry blossoms were damaged by frost on June 9, 1958 in a field at West Brook, Cumberland County, N.S. The plants were near the mid-bloom stage. The petals and stamens turned brown and dropped. On examination it was found that 10 per cent of the ovaries had turned dark due to the frost. The subsequent loss of 95 per cent of the blue berry crop may have been partially due to the loss of pollen when the petals dropped. Several other fields in Cumberland County were visited in mid-July and none were found to have been seriously affected by the frost. Two growers with fields in the Truro area of Colchester County reported severe frost damage. One grower did not attempt to rake his fields and the other had only a 5 per cent crop.

Other Observations

RED LEAF (Exobasidium vaccinii) was widespread in most blueberry fields in Charlotte Co., N.B. but damage was sl. (S.R. Colpitts). The average damage caused by red leaf in N.S. was estimated at 3% (C.L.L.). At Avondale and Upper Gullies, Nfld. red leaf was much more prevalent than in 1957 (O.A. Olsen).

FUSICOCCUM CANKER (F. putrefaciens). Crowns of the variety Kengrape at Kentville, N.S. were sev. infected (C.L.L.).