BLUEBERRY (Vaccinium corymbosum 'Berkeley') Mummy berry; Monilinia vaccinii-corymbosi

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Development of mummy berry apothecia, 2003 - 2012.

A planting of Berkeley blueberries was established in 1999 at the Botany and Plant Pathology Field Laboratory, Corvallis, OR to test fungicides or other tactics for disease management. After 3 years of plant establishment, mummified fruit collected from commercial blueberry operations was spread throughout the field. Mummy berry mummies were collected on 30 August 01 and again on 3 Sept 02 and distributed throughout the block both years. The block was regularly scouted starting at bud break each year for the first appearance of mature apothecia and continued until apothecia were not found.

Mature apothecia were consistently first observed during a 2 week period in late March to early April. The last apothecia, however, was observed anywhere from 5 to 25 April. Mature apothecia were available to disperse ascospores for an average of 17 days with a range from 8 to 28 days. The amount of mummified fruit found on non-treated bushes did not directly relate only to the length of primary infection. The amount of mummified fruit is related to a combination fungal spread during the secondary phase of this disease, weather and host susceptibility as well as length of the primary infection period.

Year	Date apothecia first observed	Date apothecia last observed	# of Days with apothecia	Mummy Berry Observed on non- treated bushes (%)
2003	26 March	15 April	20	12
2004	28 March	5 April	8	10
2005	1 April	11 April	10	10
2006	27 March	17 April	21	4
2007	28 March	9 April	12	9
2008	3 April	23 April	20	*
2009	8 April	18 April	10	
2010	22 March	12 April	21	41
2011	28 March	25April	28	61
2012	26 March	16April	22	58

* --- = not evaluated that year.