

Louisiana Mayhaw Association Newsletter August 2019

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<u>Please send newsletter</u> <u>contributions to:</u> <u>LAmayhawassocia-</u> tion@gmail.com



The Words of Andy....

President's message

Well, the dog days of summer are upon us. As I write this the heat index stands at 115, in the shade!!! When temperatures run like this up North, they run through the streets with their hair on fire demanding that someone do something about this.... Down here in the South, we are just expected to live with it. And, I guess that's what we do. But, be very careful. I know we need to work in our orchards. We need to mow and water and a myriad other things. However, temperatures this high can be deadly, so drink lots of fluids and limit your exposure to the heat.

It was reported at the last board meeting that most harvests were less than last year. Only one grower reported having a larger harvest than last year. The excessive rains and flooding from fall, winter and spring took their tolls. Up in north Louisiana the rains have continued even up to last week, fairly regularly. Therefore, we have not had to irrigate but one time this summer.

We had a very interesting speaker at the last board meeting who spoke on biopesticides. We are planning on having her be a guest speaker at the next annual conference. This option for your spraying regimen could be very beneficial for your orchard. It could be an option to the very risky chemicals we use today.

Also, we have an LSU professor doing a study for the LMA to test the spraying protocols for the Mayhaw trees. This will be a multi-year study and we are looking forward to the results. We expect the outcomes to be very helpful to all of our growers. We are trying to get him to speak at the annual conference, as well.

Our next board meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2019 and will be held at Little Eden Orchards in the Pollack area. If the next meeting is like the last one, we will accomplish a lot for the LMA. Be sure to let your board member know of any concerns you may have or any information you believe would be helpful for your association.

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Question of the day....

What does may haw taste like?

In the wild, mayhaw berries look very much like cranberries or small crabapples. They vary in taste, but the berries are usually fruity and tart. Most would say they're far too tart to eat straight from the tree—and that's where the jelly comes in.

If you are not on the group email list and would like to be added, send an email to LAmayhawassociation@gmail.com to let me know.

Don't forget about our website mayhaw.org

