Wisconsin Cranberry Production Decisions During a Drought Year

- **Outcome Observed**
- **Drought Concerns**
- **Management Decisions**
- **Crop Phenology**

**January**
- Winter food after temperatures are consistently cold.
- Water reserve availability for winter food & supports non-irrigated vines.

**February**
- Prune vines & clean ditches.

**March**
- Bud swell
- Insufficient winter food causes plants to die
- Yield & quality reduction

**April**
- Irrigate for frost protection, weed management, young vine establishment
- Dry & windy conditions desiccate & kill plants.

**May**
- Bud & leaf growth
- Wine reserve availability for vines
- Vine stress
- Pest & disease damage
- Scald
- Depth of plants
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest

**June**
- Flowering
- Soil moisture determines the size of berries
- High humidity leads to powdery mold
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest

**July**
- Fruit set
- Irrigation for water & to protect vines from heat stress
- Fruit color development/maturity
- Pesticide application

**August**
- Fruit growth
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest
- Yield & quality reduction
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature

**September**
- September can be a crucial time for water management
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest

**October**
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature
- Water reserve availability for vines
- Vine stress
- Pest & disease damage
- Scald
- Depth of plants

**November**
- Dormancy
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest
- Yield & quality reduction
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature

**December**
- Winter food after temperatures are consistently cold.
- Water reserve availability for winter food & supports non-irrigated vines.

**FEBRUARY**
- Bud swell
- Insufficient winter food causes plants to die
- Yield & quality reduction

**MARCH**
- Irrigate for frost protection, weed management, young vine establishment
- Dry & windy conditions desiccate & kill plants.

**APRIL**
- Bud & leaf growth
- Wine reserve availability for vines
- Vine stress
- Pest & disease damage
- Scald
- Depth of plants
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest

**MAY**
- Flowering
- Soil moisture determines the size of berries
- High humidity leads to powdery mold
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest

**JUNE**
- Fruit set
- Irrigation for water & to protect vines from heat stress
- Fruit color development/maturity
- Pesticide application

**JULY**
- Fruit growth
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest
- Yield & quality reduction
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature

**AUGUST**
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest
- Yield & quality reduction
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature

**SEPTEMBER**
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest
- Yield & quality reduction
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature

**OCTOBER**
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest
- Yield & quality reduction
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature

**NOVEMBER**
- Winter food after temperatures are consistently cold.
- Water reserve availability for winter food & supports non-irrigated vines.

**DECEMBER**
- Prune vines & clean ditches.
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature
- Prolonged drought may decrease water available for fruit harvest
- Yield & quality reduction
- Harvest (mid-September through November) Speed & timing (day/night) of harvest depend on water temperature