

Rethinking False Spring Risk

Glossary

Budburst: the timing when buds exit the dormancy phase and begin leaf tissue growth each season, usually estimated visually as when the first green tips are visible

Leafout: the timing when leaves are fully unfolded following budburst

False Spring: damaging freezing temperatures after budburst and before full leaf expansion that results in tissue damage

Duration of Vegetative Risk: the number of days between budburst and leafout, when plants are most susceptible to spring freeze damage

Avoidance Strategies: flexible spring phenologies that reduce the risk of exposure to false springs through methods such as later budburst times or shorter durations of vegetative risk

Tolerance Strategies: morphological attributes that reduce the risk, or extent of, ice formation during a false spring

Phenological Cues: the three major cues—winter chilling temperatures, spring warming temperatures, and daylength—and their interactive effects that influence phenological events, such as budburst and leafout