

TREE PEST UPDATES

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Diablo Valley Farm Center, Delta Rd. & 2nd St., Knightsen (no phone yet!)

May 15, 2009

CODLING MOTH

HOST CROPS: Apple, Pear, Walnut

[Not all walnut orchards need treatment every year or every generation. If you had greater than 3% worm damage last year and/or are catching high numbers in your traps, you probably need to treat this generation]

1B FLIGHT: The first codling moth flight peaked between April 21-28 (250-300 DD) in most orchards and then dropped off. We often get a 2nd peak in this first flight so look for an increase in your trap counts next week that would indicate a 1B flight. Not all orchards will have this flight but those that do should consider treatment if the flight is significant and your spray residual is gone.

2A BIOFIX: If you have little or no 1B flight, wait until the 2nd generation to treat. With “normal” weather, the 2nd generation flight is currently predicted to begin the 1st week in June with traditional spray treatments going on 11 days later – about the **3rd week of June**. I’ll send out another Tree Pest Update once the 2nd generation starts and predictions are more exact.

TREATMENT TIMING:

APPLES & PEARS: If you have a 1B flight and the residual from your first spray is gone, retreat at 650-700 DD which should occur **May 20-23**.

WALNUTS: If you have a significant 1B flight and had close to 3% harvest damage last season, spray at 650-700 DD which should occur **May 20-23**. If you use the insect growth regulator Dimlin you may want to combine it with a *half rate* of a traditional material to get any eggs that were laid before the Dimlin went on. The Dimlin should provide 30 days of control for any eggs laid after application and keep you covered until the 2A spray period.

FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON TREATMENTS AND TIMING, CALL FOR A COPY OF OUR MOST RECENT IPM GUIDELINES FOR APPLES, PEARS, OR WALNUTS OR FIND THEM ON LINE AT www.ipm.ucdavis.edu

Many thanks to Suterra for providing traps for the Contra Costa County Tree Pest Update Program.

CODLING MOTH UPDATE

UC Cooperative Extension

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What's a Biofix?: It's just the beginning of the flight for each new generation. We usually have 3 generations for codling moth in this area. We use the Biofix to begin degree day calculations for each generation so we know when egg laying, hatchout, and other lifecycle events will happen. This helps us to time our treatments most effectively.

What's a Degree Day? Insects develop faster or slower depending on the temperature. Degree days are a measure based on the maximum and minimum temperatures for each day which allow us to figure out how fast the insects are developing. You may see them abbreviated as DD or °D. If you have the daily maximum & minimum temperatures for your orchard, you can look the degree days up on a chart. If you have access to the Internet, you can get Brentwood weather data and do a degree day calculation from the UC IPM Program home page. This page also lets you calculate the projected degree days based on historical weather data so you can make projections for treatment windows (this is how I do it!). The address is <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>. Give me a call if you would like a degree day chart or more information.