COOPERATIVE EXTENSION **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

TREE PEST UPDATES

75 Santa Barbara Rd, 2nd floor, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 (925) 646-6129

June 14, 2011

ORIENTAL FRUIT MOTH

2nd BIOFIX: The second flight began about **May 30**.

HOST CROPS: Peaches, Nectarines, (rarely Apricot, Plums)

PEST ID and DAMAGE: There are only a few orchards in this area that have had problems with this pest. This worm is white to pink in color with a black to brown head. It usually enters the fruit at the stem end and heads directly to the pit where they like to feed. It can be difficult to see this damage until the fruit is cut open. They rarely cause damage to the outside of the fruit. They also bore into the terminal shoots like Peach Twig Borer (PTB).

TREATMENT AND TIMING: Often the PTB spray covers the OFM flight. This year they are quite different. If you've had a problem with this pest in the past and significant trap catches this generation, you may need to treat. Damage is most likely to occur between color break and harvest. Look in the tree tops - if you see *any* OFM fruit damage or a significant number of shoot strikes from the last flight, you'll need a spray. If your trap counts are low and you have not had problems with this pest in the past, you probably don't need to treat.

Apply sprays at 400 to 600 Degree Days (DD), depending on material (see chart below). The projected dates that the target DD should occur under normal weather conditions are also listed below. If you are close to harvest you may need to treat a little earlier or use a material with a short Pre-Harvest Interval (Delegate, Entrust, Sevin) so you can harvest at the optimum time.

MATERIALS	400 DD	500-600 DD	Re-Entry Interval[2]	Pre-Harvest Interval[3]
Altacor	June 19		4 hours	10 days
Belt	June 19		12 hours	7 days
Intrepid	June 19		4 hours	7 days
Delegate		June 23-26	4 hours	1 day
Imidan		June 23-26	5 days	14 days
Avaunt		June 23-26	12 hours	14 days
Asana		June 23-26	12 hours	14 days
Entrust[1]		June 23-26	4 hours	1 day
Sevin		June 23-26	12 hours	1 day

[1] Organically acceptable material

[2] The amount of time you need to wait to re-enter the orchard without protective equipment after a spray

[3] The amount of time you need to wait to harvest fruit after a spray

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

Note: The above information is intended to serve as baseline data for east Contra Costa County. For best results compare with traps and observations in your own orchards. Depending on pest pressure, sprays may not be necessary. Projected treatment times are based on historical weather data.

ORIENTAL FRUIT MOTH UPDATE

UC Cooperative Extension
75 Santa Barbara Rd, 2nd floor
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Janet Caprile
Farm Advisor

What's a Biofix?: It's just the beginning of the flight for each new generation. We usually have 5 generations for Oriental Fruit 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 ^{o}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 potential 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