

Codling Moth Recommendations

May 19, 2004

CODLING MOTH: The time to spray for codling moth in Cache Valley should arrive (conveniently) this weekend. Growers in Cache County should experience the first egg-hatch of the season by Saturday.

For apple growers in warmer locations, the timing for the second cover spray is approaching. Remember that peak egg-hatch should begin around 340 degree-days. Growers in BOX ELDER, SALT LAKE, and UTAH COUNTIES should reach 340 DDs very soon. Consider shortening spray intervals during this first generation and try to make sure there is fresh insecticide residue on the trees by 340 DDs. Egg-hatch should be taking off at that point. Instead of waiting 17-21 days between sprays, consider 12-14 day intervals (label permitting) if you are experiencing heavy codling moth pressure.

As mentioned previously, Assail, Danitol, Imidan, Guthion, Intrepid, and Calypso can be expected to perform well. Assail, in particular, should effectively suppress both codling moth larvae and eggs (when applied at the highest rate/A). However, Assail, Calypso and Danitol can flare spider mites if they are present in the canopy during or soon after a spray. At this point in the season, the mites usually have plenty to eat on the orchard floor, but they can begin moving up into the canopy with the warmer, drier conditions. Monitor for the presence of mites. McDaniel spider mites have been found in one particular orchard in Utah county, though numbers were low. Reports of spider mites in other locations have been coming in, as well. If only a few mites are found, consider adding some oil (0.5-1.0 %) with the application to knock the mites back a bit. If you are seeing substantial mite populations (10-20% of the leaves on the lower, interior part of the canopy), an application of Imidan or Guthion might be better choices for codling moth at this time. If you have Guthion resistance AND a substantial mite population, then Assail, Calypso, or Danitol tank-mixed with a miticide might be wise at this time.

Homeowners who plan to use apple bags should put the bags on soon. Last week, I didn't mention carbaryl (Sevin) or kaolin clay as home-use materials for codling moth. These materials, as well as spinosad, esfenvalerate, various pyrethrin and permethrin formulations, malathion, Bt, horticultural oil, LastCall CM, and diazinon (if you have some), will round out the options for a home pest management program. And of course, keep an eye out for fruit with worms. Remove and destroy infested fruit promptly.

WESTERN CHERRY FRUIT FLY: The first flies of the year were found at the Kaysville Experimental Farm (Davis County) on Monday morning, May 17th, by Thor Lindstrom. The flies were probably trapped on Sunday. This site has unusually high WCFF populations, but the high populations provide an effective early-detection system. Most sweets in Box Elder and Utah Counties are still light green, but it is likely that the flies, wherever they may be, are emerging in those counties as well. The flies begin laying eggs 7-10 days after they emerge, but they cannot penetrate the fruit until it has softened a little. Straw-yellow cherries with a faint rosy blush is considered by many to be the moment the fruit become vulnerable to WCFF.

PEACH TWIG BORER: Growers with heavy PTB pressure may want to apply a material around 220-260 DDs. For growers in Box Elder County, this will likely arrive by the end of the week or early next week. Growers with moderate pressure may want to wait until 300 DDs for their first application. Trap counts provide some measure of the local population pressure, though recent

erratic weather patterns seem to have prevented firm biofixes from being reached in key locations. Keep monitoring traps and report your findings as soon as possible.

*****Disease Advisory*****

APPLE SCAB: The relatively warm temperatures combined with the forecast for rain tomorrow may spell S-C-A-B for some growers. Average temperatures in the low 60s or upper 50s should allow the scab fungus to germinate in 7-10 hours of constant leaf wetness. If you've had scab in the past, keep watch on rain durations and temperatures during the rain events.

Precautionary Statement: All pesticides have benefits and risks, however following the label will maximize the benefits and reduce risks. Pay attention to the directions for use and follow precautionary statements. Pesticide labels are considered legal documents containing instructions and limitations. Inconsistent use of the product or disregarding the label is a violation of both federal and state laws. The pesticide applicator is legally responsible for proper use. Any mention of a pesticide brand in this document is not an endorsement by USU, and brand lists are not all-inclusive.