

## Western Cherry Fruit Fly, Codling Moth Trap Catches, Lygus

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**May 25, 2004**

\*\*\*\*\*Insect Advisory\*\*\*\*\*

WESTERN CHERRY FRUIT FLY: Flies have been found in Willard sweet cherries (Box Elder County) by Mike Willardson (UDAF), and more recently in Payson tarts (Utah County) by Diane Alston (USU Extension Entomologist). In all the monitored orchards in northern Utah, the developmental model for WCFF indicates the flies should be emerging if they're present. Additionally, the sweets in Box Elder and Utah Counties are showing substantial pink blush. This is the stage at which the fruit are vulnerable to egg-laying by WCFF. If flies are present, now might be a good time to make an application with insecticide.

Consider treating with Provado (imidacloprid) at some point this year as a resistance management material. It is a proven insecticide with a different mode of action than the organophosphates (Guthion, Dimethoate, Diazinon). Also, Provado has trans-laminar activity which means that it coats leaves and fruit even where it did not initially adhere to the tree. Aphids, caterpillars, and cherry slugs (found in Kaysville this year) should be suppressed along with WCFF.

Homeowners can rely on carbaryl (Sevin), spinosad, malathion, permethrin, and esfenvalerate. Esfenvalerate is more persistent than the other materials (re-apply every 2-3 weeks), though it might flare spider mites if they are present.

### CODLING MOTH:

The codling moth trap counts continue to surge in certain locations, from Box Elder County down to Utah County. As of May 25th, the per-trap season totals are as follows:

Perry: 700 moths per trap

Kaysville: 142 moths per trap

Payson: 141 moths per trap

Santaquin: 3 moths per trap

West Mountain: 217 moths per trap

Genola: 1 moth per trap

LP: 9 moths per trap

Obviously, certain orchards have greater pressure than others. These season-long moth catches are meant to inform decision-making regarding sprays for this 1st generation. A spray timing that may work for one grower might not work for another. As mentioned last week, the 340 degree-day total is the point at which egg-hatch (larval emergence) accelerates tremendously. The entire egg-hatch period starts at 220 DDs and goes until about 1,020 DDs, but approximately 70% of the eggs can be expected to hatch within the 340-640 DD period. This relatively short 300 DD window of time will see the greatest amount of pest pressure, and for locations where trap-catch is "north" of 100 moths/trap, the pest pressure is substantial. As we all know, each worm that gets into a fruit now will have to be dealt with again during the 2nd flight. Perhaps it would be wise to frontload your 2004 codling moth control budget so that you can attend to the critical egg-hatch period of the 1st generation. Tank-mixing materials such as Intrepid with an inexpensive OP might be a good means of hammering down the pest pressure. The recent rains and forecasted rain have implications for surface residues. OPs (such as Imidan and Guthion) are much more soluble in water than the pyrethroids (Asana, Danitol).

Homeowners in Cache Valley who plan to use apple bags should put the bags on soon. It appears that most growers will be able to set up the bags after a single insecticide application.

**LYGUS BUGS:** Lygus nymphs are being found in Box Elder and Utah County apple, peach, and nectarine blocks. If cat-facing has been an issue in the past, this pest may be especially bad this year. The abundant spring rains have provided lygus with plenty of hillside and roadside vegetation. When it dries down in June, the adults will be on the move. Sweep nets are a good means of determining your current nymphal population. It appears that Payson, Genola, West Mountain, and Lincoln Point will have some lygus to look out for. Acephate applied to the orchard understory was effective for lygus control (and boxelder bug control) last year.

\*\*\*\*\*Disease Advisory\*\*\*\*\*

**FIRE BLIGHT:** Substantial blossom infections have been found in an apple orchard in the West Mountain area of Utah County. The blight has moved into year-old wood, and amber-colored bacterial ooze is evident. Scouting for infections at this time would be wise. Prompt pruning and removal will help reduce the sources of inoculum.

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**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.