

Codling Moth Treatments, Peach Twig Borer, Cherry Fruit Fly

June 22, 2005

*****Insect Advisory*****

CODLING MOTH: Large numbers of moths continue to be caught in Box Elder and Cache Counties. In much of Cache Valley, codling moth populations should now be within the peak egg-hatch window (340-660 DDs) which means that a dramatic increase in larval emergence should happen over the next couple weeks. If a pest control tactic has not yet been deployed for codling moth, it would be wise to do so soon. In most other growing regions of northern Utah, codling moth populations are deep within the egg-hatch period, and the second cover spray of the season may be warranted soon.

For commercial growers, Assail, Danitol, Imidan, Guthion, Intrepid, and Calypso can be expected to perform well. Remember to buffer spray water where necessary and follow the label directions closely. Uniform coverage is crucial. Tank-mixing 1% (or less) of oil will likely increase the efficacy of most materials. Where growers have had a history of insecticide resistance, consider tank-mixing materials with different modes of action. Intrepid, Rimon, and Esteem are effective ovicides (kills codling moth eggs) and will help to reduce insecticide resistance. Assail and Calypso have ovicidal and larvicidal activity.

Homeowners can use a 1% oil spray (such as SunSpray Ultra-Fine) with esfenvalerate (Ortho Bug B Gon), or carbaryl (Sevin), malathion, and/or spinosad (Ferti-lome formulation). Diazinon and phosmet (Imidan) can be used if you have been able to find remaining supplies on the shelves, but their registrations have been cancelled for home use.

PEACH TWIG BORER (PTB): Based on the projected development of this insect, it appears that twig borer populations in Box Elder, Davis, Salt Lake, and much of Utah County are within the 300 to 400 DD period. This has traditionally been a good time to spray for twig borer, probably because peak egg-hatch has begun and the fruit are still very hard, making them less preferable to the emerging PTB larvae.

WESTERN CHERRY FRUIT FLY (WCFF): In River Heights (Cache Co.), a WCFF adult was caught in a baited trap late last week. This suggests that WCFF has begun its emergence in Cache Valley. Generally, it takes about a week before the females are ready to oviposit (lay eggs) in cherries, but the flies cannot penetrate the skin of the fruit until it has ripened sufficiently. When cherries have taken on a yellowish color with a pink blush, they are vulnerable to WCFF. Sprays for backyard control of this pest include esfenvalerate (Ortho Bug B Gon), spinosad (Ferti-lome products), carbaryl (Sevin), malathion, and permethrin (various). Commercial growers have spinosad (GF-120 NF), imidacloprid (Provado), and a variety of organophosphate insecticides.

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.