

Codling Moth Biofixes, Fire Blight, Powdery Mildew

May 1, 2003

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

CODLING MOTH biofixes have been reached in various fruit growing areas of northern Utah. In addition to the Payson orchard which biofixed last week on April 21st, there are new confirmed biofixes in Perry on April 21st, in Kaysville on April 25th, N. Logan on April 27th, Lincoln Point on April 29th, Brigham City on April 27th, and a site in Weber County on April 27th. Spray dates for the typical 250 D-D application will likely be sometime around late-May, depending of course on weather. The IPM Advisories will provide updates as the treatment dates approach.

CAMPYLOMMA nymphs were found in a pear and an apple orchard at the Kaysville Experimental Farm. Campylomma nymphs are somewhat late this year but can be expected to increase in numbers soon. Beat-samples of tree branches are an excellent means of monitoring for this insect. The beat-tray should have a dark background because the young nymphs are small, white, and translucent.

GREEN PEACH APHIDS on peaches have been found in very high numbers in areas of Payson, Perry, and the Kaysville Experimental Farm. Reports from Washington County suggest that this aphid may be emerging in high numbers and that resistance to Thiodan may exist. If your peaches are still at petal-fall, many of the aphids are likely to be within the flower. If your populations are not too high, wait until shuck-split to go after the aphids. Consider materials such as Actara, Sevin, Pounce, or Pyganic. Actara, Sevin, and Pounce are very effective on LYGUS bugs, as well as other cat-facing pests. If you are targeting only aphids, insecticidal soap is inexpensive, effective, and non-disruptive.

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

The MaryBlyt and Cougarblight model outputs have again indicated that risks for blossom infection are low in various sites in Cache, Davis, and Utah counties. PCR analyses for the apple orchards sampled in Utah County indicated that FIRE BLIGHT bacteria were NOT present on flower stigmas. Sprays are currently not necessary for fire blight unless there are numerous overwintering cankers and a history of serious fire blight in the orchard.

For CHERRY growers, POWDERY MILDEW may soon become an issue. Start getting prepared to spray so that when the optimal time approaches, you will be ready. First applications are made when minute mildew lesions are barely visible on interior leaves. You can start monitoring now for such lesions. Fungicides to choose from include Abound, Elite, Procure, Rally, Rubigan, or Topsin M. Organic choices are spray oil, sulfur, or bicarbonates. Most spray programs will need to continue through terminal bud set.

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.

