

Codling Moth, Peach Twig Borer

September 4, 2003

CODLING MOTH:

It is September and codling moths are still flying and laying eggs on unharvested apples and pears. Most growers along the Wasatch Front are in the process of harvesting or will soon be starting. Very few moths are being caught in most of the monitored orchards in Davis, Utah, and Box Elder Counties. Trapping reports from the North Logan benches also indicate that the third flight of moths is in decline. Moderate numbers were caught in a Payson apple orchard (Utah County), as well as in a Perry apple orchard (Boxelder County). Growers should consider whether a spray is warranted, given their last spray timing, the material used, and the expected harvest date. Sprays are probably unnecessary at this point, UNLESS (1) you do not expect to be harvesting anytime during the next 10 days, (2) you have not sprayed within the last 7 days, (3) the period of time from the last spray exceeds the posted residual activity for that material, and (4) most importantly, you have continued to find moths in your traps and worms in your fruit. Again, unless all these criteria are met, a spray at this point in the season is probably unnecessary.

PEACH TWIG BORER:

New PTB moths continue to be caught, although their numbers have been relatively low (except in Boxelder County). Most peaches are either harvested or are in the process. Spray timings for the later varieties vary widely, depending on location. Before making a treatment, consider the same criteria enumerated above in the codling moth section. If wormy peaches appear to be a real possibility for you, consider spraying with an inexpensive but effective short-residual material such as *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt, formulated as DiPel, Crymax Bt, Javelin, among others). This material is proven on PTB larvae and can help growers make it through the last week. Also, if a high population of moths exists in a neighboring orchard, and your trees have been well-managed, consider treating your orchard only where it is adjacent to the neighboring orchard.

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.