

(Last advisory of the season) News/What to Watch For:

Make sure trees get thoroughly irrigated toward late season; good sanitation (remove fallen limbs, leaves, prune out dead and diseased tissue) is key to preventing diseases; evaluate your incidence of pest damage this season and plan to make changes if necessary for next year.

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Insect and Disease Activity/Info

APPLE AND PEAR

Codling Moth

It was an interesting season for our most ubiquitous and damaging pest, the codling moth. The cool spring kept initial moth flight at bay, but on the first warm day - May 5, they flew in unison in the warmest fruit growing regions of northern Utah. Trap catch was high at first (mating disrupted sites seeing 0.75 moths/night, and non-mating disrupted sites seeing 10 moths/night), and then slowed down as cooler weather followed. Trap catch was low to average over much of the summer, and then increased again in the third generation.

Prevent codling moth population build-up through sanitation practices this fall:

- Remove all fallen and infested fruit still on the tree. (This should be done all season, and is more practical for backyard growers.)
- This winter, remove unwanted apple trees that serve as hosts.
- Commercial growers should remove picking bins from the orchard and store off-site, if possible, as they often harbor overwintering larvae.

As harvest continues, evaluate those areas of your orchard that see the most damage: are they border trees? are they near external sources of infestation? do you see a pattern? Next season, pay close attention to those problem spots. Hang extra traps there to monitor for pest pressure. Spot treatments may be necessary, or growers using mating disruption may consider doubling the application rate on border trees or hot spots.

Pearleaf and Appleleaf Blister Mites



Feeding by blister mites causes blisters to form on leaves that are barely visible in spring, and by late summer, appear as

Insect and Disease Activity/Info, continued

raised, brown necrotic (dead) spots. The mites overwinter in bud scales, and in spring, females feed on developing leaves and lay their eggs within the blisters. The mites feed within the blisters for protection, but are able to move from one to another. There are several generations over the summer. Before leaf fall, mites migrate to buds for the winter.

Blister mites are mostly a problem on landscape and backyard trees, and apples, pears, and crabapples are hosts. It is only occasionally a problem on pear fruit when mites feed on the developing fruit in early spring. As the fruit develops, the feeding damage appears as depressed, circular brown spots. Leaf damage is usually not enough to harm the tree, but in some cases, can cause an interruption in photosynthetic activity.

The best treatment timing is in early fall, before leaf drop, as mites are migrating to leaf buds.

Pear Psylla



After pear harvest is a good time to treat for pear psylla before the adults migrate to protected areas in leaf litter or on tree bark for the winter.

To determine whether a postharvest treatment is necessary, examine one upper canopy terminal shoot of at least 20 trees in your orchard for the presence of nymphs (usually sitting in a drop of honeydew). If activity is seen on at least 5 shoots, a treatment is warranted.

Fire Blight

As fall approaches, examine your trees for fire blight cankers that have not yet been pruned out. These will be easy to spot because the leaves will remain attached to the dead shoots. While the trees are dormant, it is not necessary to sterilize your pruners between cuts, and affected shoots and branches should be removed 10-12 inches below the diseased tissue. If you are diligent about removing as much fire blight as possible, you are reducing the amount of inoculum in your trees and lessening the chances of an outbreak for



fire blight “strikes” are easy to spot in winter—look for twigs with leaves still attached and the “shepherd’s crook” appearance

next season.

STONE FRUITS

Coryneum Blight

Foliar lesions of coryneum blight (also known as shothole) were common this season on peaches, nectarines, and apricots. Fruit infections were more sporadic. Infections on fruit that don’t show up until harvest or postharvest appear as circular, gray, sunken lesions.

New infections targeting fresh leaf scars occur in the fall, as this fungal pathogen overwinters in buds (which leads to stem cankers). Treatment during leaf fall will prevent new infections from occurring. Trees or orchards with severe infections will need at least three years of diligent fall, spring, and growing season treatments to suppress the disease incidence.

During dormant season pruning, inspect trees thoroughly for sunken cankers and remove and destroy those stems and twigs.

Spray Materials - Commercial Applicators

Target Pest	Host	Chemical	Example Brands	Amount per acre	Comments
Blister mites	apple, pear	carbaryl lime sulfur thiodan	Sevin variety Endosulfan, Thionex	4-6 pint see label 3 lbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> can mix sulfur with oil for improved effectiveness, but not on water-stressed trees
Pear psylla	pear	lime sulfur lime sulfur+oil azadirachtin	variety variety Azatin, etc.	1.1-1.7 oz see label 4-8 oz 4-6 oz 2-2.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pear is sensitive (phytotoxic) to lime+oil when used in warm weather
Coryneum blight	peaches, nectarine	fixed copper Bordeaux mixture	Kocide, C-O-C-S same	see label see label	

Spray Materials - Residential Applicators

Note that these treatments are only recommended if you know you have the particular pest in your trees.

Target Pest	Host	Chemical	Example Brands	How Often	Comments
Blister mites	apple, pear	carbaryl lime sulfur	Sevin, Bonide Fruit Tree Spray Hi-Yield, Bonide	One applica- tion during cool weather and before leaf drop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mix hort. oil with lime sulfur to improve effective-ness (but do not use on water-stressed trees) • a follow-up delayed-dor-mant spray of oil should be used on severely infested trees
Pear psylla	pear	lime sulfur lime sulfur+oil	Hi-Yield, Bonide	One applica- tion during cool weather in early October.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • treatment threshold for residential tree is 5 in-fested shoots/tree • sulfur+oil can damage pear if sprayed during hot weather
Coryneum blight	stone fruits	fixed copper	Bonide, Lilly Miller Microcop	One application at 50% leaf drop	

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