



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION ♦ SUTTER & YUBA COUNTIES
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ORCHARD NOTES

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001

PEACH PEST MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP YEAR TWO OF THE PEACH PEST MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE

Sponsored by University of California Cooperative Extension,
CCPB, CTFA,
California Department of Pesticide Regulation



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2001
1:45 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.
FARM ADVISOR'S MEETING ROOM
142 GARDEN HIGHWAY, YUBA CITY

PROGRAM

1:45 - 2:00p.m. Registration

Moderator Janine Hasey, UC Farm Advisor, Sutter & Yuba Counties

2:00 p.m. Measuring the Success of Demonstration Programs
Randy Henson, Weddle, Hansen & Associates Inc

2:30 p.m. Season Review, *Janine Hasey, Sutter/Yuba Farm Advisor*

3:00 p.m. Panel Discussion - What worked/didn't work in 2001
Walt Bentley, UCIPM Entomologist; Gary Walker, PCA - Growers Ag Service, Gurjit Hundal, Grower; Justin Hill -Suterra; Nick Macris -Pacific BioControl

3:50 p.m. How do we improve monitoring for OFM and mites?

4:00 p.m. Adjourn

Refreshments courtesy of California Cling Peach Board

2 Hours of PCA and Private Applicator credits applied for

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HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON YOUR DORMANT SPRAY

DORMANT SPUR SAMPLING WORKSHOPS FOR PEACH AND PRUNE GROWERS

Sponsored by the
University of California Cooperative Extension, Sutter/Yuba and Butte Counties
UC Integrated Pest Management
Peach and Prune Pest Management Alliance

What: You may not need to apply a dormant organophosphate insecticide this winter. By inspecting dormant spur samples for San Jose Scale, parasitized scale and European red mites on peach and prune trees, we can tell you whether to skip this spray based on threshold levels of these pests. As we did in December 2000, we will be holding dormant spur sampling workshops covering pest management cost reducing strategies, an update on the status of organophosphate dormant sprays, and hands-on viewing of spur samples to determine dormant spray decisions. Come to one of the workshops below with a sample from your orchard and find out how to save on a spray.

Cut 60 spur samples from your block and bring them to the meeting. We will help you get your spur samples prior to the meeting between November 26th and December 4th. To arrange a sampling time, please call Nirmal Sandhar, UCIPM Assistant at (530) 822-7515 if you are a peach or prune grower in Sutter/Yuba counties or Jed Walton, Field Assistant at (530) 538-7201 if you are a Butte county grower.

Where and When:

YUBA CITY

December 5, 2001
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Agricultural Building,
142 Garden Highway, Yuba City, CA

GRIDLEY

December 6, 2001
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Gridley Inn, 1490 Highway 99
Gridley, CA

SPEAKERS

Carolyn Pickel, UCIPM Advisor, Bill Olson and Janine Hasey, UC Farm Advisors,
Al Barth, Sutter County Agricultural Biologist, Agricultural Commissioners Office,
and
Bob Voorhees, Butte County Agricultural Biologist, Agricultural Commissioners Office

Refreshments provided by the California Cling Peach Board

2 Hours of PCA and private applicator credit applied for (1/2 hours of laws)

PEACH PRUNING MEETING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2001

8:30 A.M. - NOON

AGRICULTURAL BUILDING MEETING ROOM

142 GARDEN HIGHWAY, YUBA CITY

To compete in today's market, growers must produce a quality product. Pruning helps maintain light penetration needed for flower production. With proper pruning, growers can maintain yield and productivity and promote more uniform maturity. Ted DeJong, Pomologist from UC Davis, will discuss the basic concepts, goals and physiology of pruning. After about an hour, we will go to two Yuba City sites of Raginder Chohan to demonstrate renewal pruning on young trees and older trees that have been retrained to this pruning system. The demonstrations are informal and meant for discussion. The grower, his PCA, Gary Walker, and Farm Advisor Janine Hasey along with Ted DeJong will be on hand to offer comments. Please plan to attend.

In case of light rain, we will still hold the meeting. In the event of heavy rain, please call our office .

Upcoming Meetings

Hold your calendar open for

January 29, 2002 for the 8th Annual Sacramento Valley Cling Peach Day Program will be in January Orchard Notes.

The Sutter/Yuba/Colusa Walnut Day will be held in February 2002
Look for date in January Orchard Notes.

SHOT HOLE DISEASE IN PEACHES

The first fungicide spray of the season is fast approaching and peach growers looking to cut costs should not sacrifice a spray application for shot hole disease. Growers have done a good job controlling this disease in our area over the past several years. However, I have seen orchards devastated by shot hole disease following a wet fall. The fungus, *Wilsonomyces carpophilus*, overwinters in infected buds and twig lesions. Infected buds are the most important source of inoculum in peach. During wet weather, spores are produced and spread by splashing rain and wind. Twig and bud infection occurs during rainy weather any time from fall through spring when there is 24 hours of continuous wetness. Blighted buds left on the tree may

continue to produce spores for more than one year.

Apply either copper or a Ziram spray at leaf fall to effectively control the bud blight phase of shot hole disease. The cost is around \$20.00 per acre for either fungicide.

THE PEACH LEAF SPOT PROBLEM OF 2001

Incidents of spots and holes in cling peach leaves were first seen on May 26, 2001 in Sutter County and reported to me on May 29, 2001 in both Sutter and Yuba Counties. These spots typically started as round, purple lesions, sometimes with tan borders or centers.

Eventually the spots would die and fall out leaving a "shothole" in the leaf. Other symptoms included spotting on young wood, yellowing on older leaves and leaf drop especially on young trees. Over the month of June, growers reported seeing these symptoms on more than 6,000 acres in Sutter, 5,600 acres in Yuba and about 30 acres in Butte County. Disease cultures for shothole fungus by two separate University of California Plant Pathologists and the CDFA Plant Pathologist were negative.

Possible spray drift was suspected and the investigation centered on copper and Clincher, a new rice grass herbicide registered under a Section 18 for the 2001 season. Both copper and Clincher were being applied to rice during the time of the tree damage. Peaches are known to be sensitive to copper sprays once they have leaves. The Sutter County Agriculture Department requested The University of California conduct a simulated drift study to 1) evaluate whether these chemicals could cause spotting and 2) to characterize the nature of the spots. The goal was to confirm whether or not either of these chemicals could cause the observed symptoms. However, this work does not independently confirm that either material drifted onto the orchards.

The University of California study was conducted by UC Rice Farm Advisor Jack Williams, UC Davis Weed Ecologist, Tom Lanini and Albert Fischer, a Weed Science Assistant Professor at UC Davis. As of mid-November, the report is accessible on the UC Davis Department of Agronomy website: <http://agronomy.ucdavis.edu>. Go to "Agronomy Progress Reports". The Agricultural Commissioners will release their own reports on their investigations and should be contacted directly for the status of those reports.

ZINC TREATMENTS IN PEACHES

To prevent or correct Zinc deficiency in peaches, Zinc sulfate (36 percent metallic zinc) can be effectively applied at a rate of about 10 to 15 pounds per acre. This application should be made from mid October (or about 50% leaf fall) through the dormant season. Do not apply a dormant spray with Zinc sulfate or within several weeks of dormant oil spray.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Pest Science Conference, Practical Pest Management with Emphasis on Weeds: Information You Can Use. December 18, 2001, UC Davis. For registration and information, call (800) 752-0881.

Agricultural Direct Marketing Strategies for Successful Businesses and Communities. March 1, 2002, UC Davis. Full program brochures will be available in January 2002. For more information, call David Chaney at (530) 752-7556.

Happy Holidays!

JANINE HASEY
U.C. FARM ADVISOR

