

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ~ SUTTER/YUBA COUNTIES
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

142A Garden Highway, Yuba City, California 95991
(530) 822-7515~TDD 800-698-4544 ~ Fax (530) 673-5368

ORCHARD NOTES

F E B R U A R Y 1 9 9 8

SUTTER/YUBA/COLUSA WALNUT MEETING

Wednesday, February 11, 1998, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Veterans Building, 1425 Circle Drive, Yuba City

MEETING PROGRAM

8:30 a.m. SIGN-IN Coffee and Danish - *Courtesy of Growers Ag Service*

9:00 a.m. **SELECTING YOUR NEXT WALNUT VARIETY,**
Moderator - *John Edstrom*

- **Howard vs. Chandler**

John Edstrom, UC Farm Advisor, Colusa County

- **What About Tulare?**

Janine Hasey, UC Farm Advisor, Sutter/Yuba Counties

- **An Industry Perspective**

Steve Wulfert, Sacramento Valley Field Representative,
Diamond Walnut Growers

10:00 a.m. **LABOR ISSUES**

- **The Agricultural Personnel Management Program**

**Brian Linhardt, Sacramento Valley Personnel Management
Farm Advisor**

- **Federal Trucking Regulation**

George Woodley, Vice President, DATCo

10:15 a.m. **BREAK**

10:35 a.m. **MARKETING**, Moderator - *Janine Hasey*

**Marketing the 1997 Walnut Crop and Future Crops
Michael Mendes, President and CEO, Diamond Walnut
Growers**

11:05 a.m. **PEST MANAGEMENT**

- **Codling Moth Control with Imidan and Effect on
Beneficials**

Janine Hasey, UC Farm Advisor

- **Walnut Husk Fly Update**

Carolyn Pickel, UCIPM Advisor, Sacramento Valley

- **Walnut Blight Update**

Bill Olson, UC Farm Advisor

12:00 Noon Adjourn

SPONSORS

*University of California Cooperative Extension, Sutter, Yuba,
Colusa Counties*

**PCA CREDIT - 1 Hour Continuing Education Pending; CCA
CREDIT - 2 Hours Pending**

1997 PEACH BIORATIONAL PROGRAM

Several Sutter, Yuba and Butte County cling peach growers cooperated in a program to reduce or eliminate insecticides in 1997. The dormant spray was oil for controlling mites and young scale insects and copper for peach leaf curl control. Instead of a dormant insecticide, two *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) sprays combined with brown rot sprays at bloom were used for overwintered peach twig borer (PTB) control. During the season, growers used either a complete or partial mating disruption (pheromone confusion) program to control Oriental fruit moth (OFM) and PTB. In the complete mating disruption (MD) program, OFM pheromone dispensers are applied in late February or early March and PTB pheromone dispensers are applied in early April at first moth. These dispensers last for 90 days. Where dual OFM/PTB dispensers are used, we recommend putting them up at OFM biofix. In early June, OFM and PTB dispensers are applied together to control these pests the rest of the summer. In the partial MD program, either a combination of one OFM-MD, one PTB-MD and one summer spray or one OFM-MD plus two summer sprays, was used to reduce costs of the complete program.

During the season, orchards were monitored using traps and for shoot strikes to make sure the pheromones were working. In April, thirty orchard blocks were checked for shoot strikes to see how well the Bt controlled overwintered PTB. All blocks had 0-1 shoot strikes which meant the Bt was successful. At harvest, all fifteen orchard blocks in the complete mating disruption program had 0-0.4% worm damage and 0-0.6% worm damage in the twenty-five blocks in the partial program based on grade sheets. All blocks in the study including those that were conventionally sprayed had some leafroller damage. We believe this damage was from second generation oblique banded leafroller that IPM Advisor Carolyn Pickel and I plan to study this summer.

The BT and the complete and partial MD programs were successful in controlling worms in 1997. The cost of the Bt program is comparable to the cost of a dormant insecticide. The cost of the complete mating disruption program is still over \$100 per acre more than a standard spray program although the cost dropped \$7.00 per acre compared to 1996. The partial program with two pheromone applications and one spray was about \$60.00 per acre more and the one pheromone application - two spray program was about \$50.00 per acre more than the standard spray program. Comparing these two partial programs, for \$10.00 per acre more, a grower can eliminate one spray. Even with additional costs, some growers are continuing with the complete MD program

because of worker safety, no drift and ease of scheduling cultural operations.

For growers, who have not yet used a dormant insecticide this winter, consider using Bt at bloom. Growers considering using mating disruption, either a complete or partial program, should decide by mid-February so the first OFM dispenser application can be made at biofix.

Monitoring and meetings for implementing this program was made possible through funding from the Department of Pesticide Regulation and Smith-Lever IPM Project grants.

FEBRUARY REMINDERS

- **Peaches:** Hang OFM pheromone traps around the third week of February to detect the first moth. Set biofix to calculate degree-days. At first moth, hang pheromone dispensers if using mating disruption.
- **Walnuts:** Prune young walnut trees in late February and March. Control navel orangeworm by removing mummy nuts and mowing them and cleaning up all trash around hullers.
- **Kiwifruit:** Apply a dormant spray after pruning and before budbreak to control scale.

WORKSHOPS

Pesticides: Principles and Resistance Issues

March 16, 1998, U.C. Davis

Call Anna Trunnell at 530/757-8899

Management of Fruit Ripening

March 31, 1998, U.C. Davis

Call 800/752-0881

JANINE HASEY