



University of California ≈ Cooperative Extension
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Orchard Notes

Dec 2008/Jan 2009

14th ANNUAL SACRAMENTO VALLEY CLING PEACH DAY

Wednesday, January 7, 2009

*8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon / Lunch 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Agricultural Building, 142 Garden Highway, Yuba City*

Meeting Program

- 8:30 a.m. Registration, Coffee and Danish, *Courtesy of Community Alliance with Family Farmers*
8:55 a.m. Welcome, *Janine Hasey, UC Farm Advisor, Sutter and Yuba Counties*

Labor Saving Strategies

- 9:00 a.m. 2008 Mechanical thinning research and labor/cost savings
Janine Hasey, UC Farm Advisor, Sutter and Yuba Counties

Disease Management

- 9:30 a.m. Brown Rot & Powdery Mildew – two ongoing disease threats to the cling peach industry
Jim Adaskaveg, Plant Pathologist, UC Riverside
10:05 a.m. California Cling Peach Board Business Session

Break

Fruit Inspection

- 10:30 a.m. Measuring fruit firmness for cling peach inspection
David Slaughter, Professor, Biological & Agricultural Engineering, UC Davis

Pest Management

- 11:00 a.m. Update of laws and regulations
Jan Kendel, Ag Biologist, Sutter County Agricultural Department
- 11:15 a.m. Insect Control Strategies in Peaches and Video - Managing oriental fruit moth using sunflower plantings to augment *Macrocentrus ancyllivorus*
Hannah Nadel, Associate Entomology Specialist, UC Riverside
Marshall Johnson, Extension Entomologist, UC Riverside

Lunch

12:00 Noon Chicken lunch provided by California Cling Peach Board.

Please RSVP to the Sutter/Yuba Extension office at (530) 822-7515 by **Monday, January 5th** if you plan to stay for lunch. You may also fax to (530)673-5368 or email: mlsearcy@ucdavis.edu to have your name put on the list for lunch.

Meeting Sponsored by:

University of California Cooperative Extension, Sutter & Yuba Counties

Co-Sponsored by:

Sutter County Agricultural Department

PCA and Private Applicator Credit – 1.5 hours, includes .5 hour of regulations
CCA Credit – 2.5 hours

SAVE the DATE!

Sutter/Yuba/Colusa Walnut Day

Thursday, February 12, 2008
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Dormant Spray Options for Peaches

The pesticides used in the conventional dormant spray include oil, an organophosphate or pyrethroid and copper. The target pests controlled by the oil are San Jose scale (low to moderate populations) and European red mite, the organophosphate controls peach twig borer and San Jose scale, pyrethroids control peach twig borer (not scale), and copper controls peach leaf curl. Delayed dormant spray timing (late January to mid-February before bloom), is more effective than dormant spray timing for controlling San Jose scale, European red mite, and peach leaf curl. Another benefit to spraying later during the dormant period is more orchard floor vegetation reducing pesticide runoff potential. A good reason to delay the dormant spray this year is to avoid any tree damage from dormant oils because of the very dry soil conditions.

Growers have several dormant spray management options available to them to potentially reduce costs while reducing runoff potential. The first option is to **monitor** for these pests by taking dormant shoot samples. These samples will help you determine the levels of San Jose scale and European red mite populations and the most appropriate pesticide and rates to use. If San Jose scale is below 10 percent, oil alone should be an effective control. If over 10 percent, then consider using an organophosphate such as Supracide or the insect growth regulator Seize. When applying organophosphates, pyrethroids, or any pesticides, they should not be applied 48 hours before a predicted rain event to avoid runoff. Secondly, there are more dormant or bloom time control options available with newer chemistries that have reduced hazard to the environment, greater worker safety, and are replacements for the traditional broad spectrum contact pyrethroids and organophosphates. These include biological insecticides (Bt), Spinosyns (Delegate), or insect growth regulators (Intrepid, Dimilin, Seize) listed in the table below.

For peaches, reduced hazard insecticide programs build from the basic dormant/delayed dormant spray which is oil for scale and copper for peach leaf curl. In the table below are insecticides that have been demonstrated to be effective. Bt, Spinosyn, and Intrepid also control oblique banded leafroller which is an occasional peach pest. Seize applied delayed dormant with the oil and copper spray, has been very effective in reducing or eliminating scale in peach orchards where it was used on blocks with over 10 percent San Jose scale as determined from annual dormant shoot sampling. Alternating with different materials and chemistries every year will help manage insect resistance and help ensure that our insecticide tools remain effective.

Target Insect	Material	Rate*	Spray Timing*
Peach twig borer	<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> (Bt)	1 lb or 1 qt/acre	2 bloom sprays often with brown rot timing
Peach twig borer	Delegate (Spinosyn)	3-7 oz/acre	Delayed dormant
Peach twig borer	Dimilin 2L	12 oz/acre	Delayed dormant
Peach twig borer	Intrepid 2F	8-16 oz/acre	Delayed dormant
San Jose scale	Seize 35WP	4-5 oz/acre	Delayed dormant plus 2 gal oil/acre

* Always consult pesticide label before applying.

Chilling Hours Update

December 5, 2008	158	2008-09	?
December 3, 2007	140	2007-08	1108

Chilling hours (hours below 45° F model) recorded at our office in Yuba City on Garden Highway. Chilling units for the same model on 12/5/08 at the Nicolaus Cimis station were 190.

Kiwifruit Gray Mold Control

Currently, fungicide products (Scholar and Judge) are only available for postharvest treatment of Botrytis fruit rot also called gray mold decay. Typically, the fungus invades through the stem end where the stem is removed (stem scar). Gray mold decay can be dramatically reduced with a single postharvest fungicide treatment based on research demonstrated commercially by Jim Adaskaveg, UC Riverside Plant Pathologist. Even though postharvest treatment is very effective for gray mold, many growers prefer to control the disease with a pre-harvest fungicide. There were no pre-harvest fungicides for gray mold control on kiwifruit registered in 2008; however, Vanguard is expected to be registered by fall 2009 and Elevate should be registered in 2010 or 2011 for pre-harvest application.

Walnut Presentation Online

The presentation “Why are some Walnut Trees Turning Yellow, Not Growing, or Collapsing in my Orchard” that I recently gave at Sutter County Ag Department/UCCE meetings is posted on my website at:

http://cesutter.ucdavis.edu/Orchard_Crops/Walnut_Information.htm

Thank you all for your support of our programs this past year and to those who have made donations to our office for program activities. A special thank you to cooperators on research projects and educational programs, I truly appreciate your efforts and contributions. Wishing you the best in 2009.

JANINE HASEY
U.C. FARM ADVISOR
SUTTER/YUBA COUNTIES

Season's Greetings





UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Sacramento Valley Cling Peach Day
January 7, 2009
Yuba City**

(see first page for program)



**Sutter/Yuba/Colusa Walnut Day
February 12, 2009
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Yuba City**

**(information to follow in next
issue of Orchard Notes)**