



Cooperative Extension ~ University of California  
Sutter/Yuba Counties  
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# Orchard Notes

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N o v e m b e r   D e c e m b e r   2 0 0 3

**DORMANT SPRAY AND ALTERNATIVES CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINARS  
DECEMBER 2, 2003 OR DECEMBER 9, 2003**

8:00 A.M. – 8:30 A.M.	REGISTRATION AND SIGN IN
8:30 A.M.	WELCOME
8:35 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.	WHAT IS A DORMANT SPRAY PRESENTED BY: CAROLYN PICKEL, AREA IPM ADVISOR <i>DECEMBER 9TH PRESENTED BY FRANZ NIEDERHOLZER</i>
9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. SPRAYERS	UNDERSTANDING SPRAY DRIFT, CALIBRATION OF ORCHARD PRESENTED BY: FRANZ NIEDERHOLZER, UC FARM ADVISOR
9:30 A.M.– 10:00 A.M.	ALTERNATIVES FOR DORMANT SPRAY PRESENTED BY: JANINE HASEY & FRANZ NIEDERHOLZER, UC FARM ADVISORS, SUTTER & YUBA COUNTIES
10:00 A.M. – 10:15 A.M.	BREAK
10:15 A.M. – 10:45 A.M.	DORMANT SPUR LAB IDENTIFY THOSE INSECTS THAT ARE BUGGING YOU IN YOUR ORCHARD
10:45 A.M.– 11:30 A.M.	IRRIGATION RETURN FLOW WAIVER & HOW IT AFFECTS GROWERS PRESENTED BY: AARON FERGUSON, NORTHERN CALIF. WATER ASSOCIATION, <i>DECEMBER 9TH PRESENTED BY: DAVID GUY, NORTHERN CALIF. WATER ASSOCIATION</i>

3 hours of Continuing Education for Private Applicators (PA's)-QAL's-QAC's  
Call Rosemary Pierson at the Ag Commissioner's Office 822-7503 to register or for questions.

**SPONSORS**

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AND UCIPM ARE TEAMING WITH THE SUTTER COUNTY  
AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT TO SPONSOR THESE CONTINUING EDUCATION CLASSES.**

## LATE FALL/WINTER ORCHARD PRACTICES

### Peaches

Shot Hole Disease – Growers should plan to apply a Ziram or copper spray at leaf fall to effectively control the bud blight phase of this fungus disease, which is the most damaging to peaches. The fungus, *Wilsonomyces carpophilus*, overwinters in infected buds and twig lesions. Infected buds are the most important inoculum source in peach; spores are produced and spread by splashing rain and wind during wet weather. Twig and bud infection can occur any time there is 24 hours of continuous wetness from fall through spring.

Dormant spray – consider coming to either the meeting on December 2 or December 9 with a dormant spur sample to discover if San Jose scale may or may not be a problem in your orchard. We will cover the value of the dormant spray and alternatives to using organophosphate or pyrethroid for peach twig borer. Please see article in this newsletter. To prevent pesticide run-off try to avoid applying dormant spray right before rain is predicted or if soil is to saturated.

### Walnuts

Examine winter prunings for the presence of scale insects.

#### Save these dates

10<sup>th</sup> Annual Sacramento Valley Cling Peach Day  
Thursday January 22, 2004, 8:30 am – 12:00

Managing Labor Costs Seminar  
Thursday February 12, 2004, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00  
(Must pre-register to attend)

Sutter/Yuba/Colusa Walnut Day  
Tuesday February 17, 2004, 1:00 pm- 4:00 pm

Organic Soil Fertility Workshop  
Tuesday February 24, 2004

**Programs will be in upcoming issues of “Orchard Notes”**

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## REFLECTIONS OF 2003

There were not enough chilling hours. Then it rained almost 5 inches in April and May. There were pollen problems in the kiwifruit. We broke records for the number of days over 100 degrees in July. Peach harvest was delayed. In August, it rained three times – brown rot hit the peaches. The peach crop came in lighter than expected. Walnut harvest was delayed. October was hot - we had many record high temperatures. Then it hailed and rained in early November. Kiwifruit harvest came and was over quickly with a light crop. There were lots of oilless walnuts. Some growers were still harvesting walnuts the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of November. The final walnut crop remains to be seen. And these are just reflections on the weather side of growing a crop. Isn't farming fun? Perhaps 2004 will be kinder to the grower.

Several meetings are in the planning stage for 2004 to address a range of grower concerns that will include production issues, labor management, irrigation, organic culture and economic outlook.

I would like to thank all of you for your support of our programs this past year. This was especially important during uncertain budget times. I also appreciated the efforts and contributions of cooperators on research projects and educational programs this past year. I wish all of you a joyous holiday season.

Janine Hasey, UC Farm Advisor  
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Happy Holidays

