



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension TEXAS PECAN PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER



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#16-2

TEXAS PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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www.tpga.org

GENERAL

Spring is here, bud break is underway and hope for great season abounds. During this time sprayer calibration and zinc applications are a must and if you have not ordered your PNC pheromone and traps it is time to place that order. Also, there are numerous county pecan field days across the state this spring that offer presentations on fertilization, zinc and pest management.

COMMERCIAL PECAN INSECT GUIDE

The Texas commercial insect and mite control guide for Texas pecans "Managing Insect and Mite Pests of Commercial Pecans in Texas", Publication ENTO-048, has been updated and is available at the following website:

<http://www.texasinsects.org/tree-crops.html>

This guide contains text on major pecan insect and mite pests plus recommended insecticides. Product recommendations are based on field trials, field observations by Extension entomologists and how the product fits with the principles of IPM. At the end of the publication is a list of insecticides that are labeled for pecan.

INSECTS

During this early spring period there are a few insects which are generally considered "nuisance" pests but on occasion can be serious. Unfortunately we do not have any threshold treatment guidelines to determine action levels for these insects so treatment decision will have to

be based on producers observations and perceived threat.

Phylloxera: If you had galls on new tissue last year you more than likely will have the problem this year. Although many publications say treat at bud break I feel that you can wait until there is an inch or two of new growth as shown in figure 2. For this insect spot treatments are recommended for only those trees that had galls the previous season. If you have a question concerning activity you can check the new growth with a 10x lens for the orangish colored crawlers, figure 1.



Figure 1 Phylloxera crawlers on new tissue. Photo credit: Dr. Mike Hall, LSU Pecan Research Station, Shreveport, LA



Figure 2 Stage of pecan growth for phylloxera treatment

Sawfly: There are two species of sawfly, *Periclista marginicollis* and *Megaxyela major* that feed on pecan during the early season. There is only one generation per year and activity is restricted to the new growth.



Figure 3. *Megaxyela major*



Figure 4. *Periclista marginicollis* and typical shot hole damage

Most of the time damage is more of visual concern but I have seen significant defoliations where a treatment would have been justified. The sawfly larvae are actually larvae of a wasp (Hymenoptera) rather than a true caterpillar (Lepidoptera) so a broad spectrum insecticide is recommended if needed.

June bugs: June bugs, June beetles, May beetles or whatever you want to call them can be a serious problem, more so on young trees but I did see a problem last year on mature trees. With this group of insects you will not see them during the day so there can be damage but no visible cause or pest present so check the orchard after dark for adults. Typical damage will be missing

and/or ragged foliage and leaf rachis and petioles that are chewed off as shown in figure 5. If a treatment is needed I recommend an application of a broad spectrum insecticide applied in the late afternoon or evening if possible.



Figure 5. June bug damage

Pecan Nut Casebearer

The following are a few businesses that sell PNC traps and lures. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension recommends 3 traps for 50 acres or less and at least 5 traps for orchards larger than 50 acres. Remember that any lure not being used should be stored in the freezer. As a general rule traps should be in an orchard 30 days prior to an average treatment for it is important to record days with “zero” captures in order to establish the benchmark date for the start of a flight.

Pecan Nut Casebearer Pheromone and Traps Alpha Scents

1089 Willamette Falls Drive,
West Linn, OR 97068

Sales: 503-342-8611 — 971-998-8248

Fax: 314-271-7297

Gempler's

P.O. Box 44993
Madison, WI 53744-4993
Order by Phone: 1-800-382-8473

Great Lakes IPM Inc.

10220 Church Road
Vestaburg, MI 48891-9746
Ph: 989-268-5693 or 989-268-5911
Toll Free: 1-800-235-0285
Fax: 989-268-5693
E-mail: glipm@nethawk.com
<http://www.greatlakesipm.com/>

ISCA Technologies / Moritor Technologies

P.O. Box 5266
Riverside, California 92517
Tel: 951-686-5008
Fax: 815-346-1722
email: info@iscatech.com
Web: www.iscatech.com

Oliver Pecan Co. Inc.

1402 W. Wallace, San Saba, TX 76877
800-657-9291
E-mail: soliver@centex.net

Pape Pecan House

P.O. Box 1281
101 S. Hwy 123 Bypass
Seguin, TX 78155
Ph: 830-379-7442

Southern Nut 'n Tree Equipment, Inc and PPI

324 SH 16 South
Goldthwaite, TX 76844
1-800-527-1825
Fax: 325-938-5490
E-mail: sales@pecans.com

Trece

P.O. Box 129
Adair, OK 74330
Ph: 918-785-3061
Fax: 918-785-3063
Email: custserv@trece.com
Order Center: 866-785-1313
<http://www.trece.com>

STATE/REGIONAL MEETINGS

2016

The following are meetings that I am aware of to date or that have confirmed dates.

County Meetings for April:

April 7, 2016

Mills County Pecan Short Course

Contact: Tom Guthrie – Mills Co. CEA
@ 325-648-2650

April 14, 2016

Comanche County
Contact: Mike Berry – Comanche Co. CEA
@ 325-356-2539

April 20, 2016

Colorado/Fayette County field day
Stephan Janak – Colorado Co. CEA @ 979-732-2082
Or Scot Willey – Fayette Co. CEA @ 979-968-5831

April 21, 2015

Guadalupe County field day
Contact: Travis Franke – Guadalupe Co. CEA
@ 830-303-3889

April 26, 2016

Washington County Field Day
Contact: Kara Matheney - Washington Co. CEA
@ 979-277-6212

State Meetings

June 2-4, 2016

Oklahoma Pecan Growers Conference
Tulsa, OK
Contact: Amanda Early @ Amanda.early@okstate.edu
or 405-744-8800

June 16-17, 2016

TriState Pecan Convention
Best Western Inn & Suites
Alexandria, LA
Contact: Stephen Norman
pecans@rosaliepecans.com or 318-448-3139

July 10-13, 2016

TPGA annual conference and trade show
San Marcos, TX

Contact: TPGA @ 979-846-3285

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