



Texas AgriLife Extension TEXAS PECAN PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER



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#11-2

This newsletter is being supported by your TEXAS
PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION
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Anyone wanting this newsletter by email please send me a note at the above address and I'll put you on the list. If anyone has had an address change from a rural route box number to a 911 address please let me know so I can make the change. Also, if you change email servers you will need to let me know.

GENERAL

Well what can I say; it is dry, dry, dry and windy with no significant rain chances in the near future. This is supposed to be an on year but so far I have not observed much of a crop. One major concern with the wind, heat and low humidity is pollen survival. Even though you might be seeing a good/fair nut crop, pollination will be a big question so we might see a larger than normal June drop.

Hopefully the moisture situation will change soon, if not, it is going to be difficult and expensive to produce this crop.

MAIL OUT PROBLEM

For those producers that receive hard copies, we had some problems in the last mail out where the computer program/file that matches names and address had a problem and everyone received a

letter that was addressed to someone else. We are going to have to go back to an old non-corrupt list, add all the new requests we can find and start over.

INSECTS

Aphids: At this time aphids are not an issue. As a reminder, I mentioned in the last newsletter that Dr. Juan Lopez, USDA-ARS, College Station, and I received a grant from the EPA-PESP (Pesticide Environmental Stewardship Program) to look at blackmargined pecan aphid susceptibility/resistance to imidacloprid. If anyone has experienced aphid control problems with imidacloprid we would like to hear from you.

Pecan nut casebearer: With the higher than normal temperatures this spring PNC activity is early, in some cases 2 weeks early. PNC trap data reported to <http://pecan.ipmPIPE.org> shows at the time of this writing trap catches being reported as far north as Comanche county and the Ennis area which is just south of Dallas. With PNC activity being dependent on temperature and with spring temperatures higher than normal across the state we are not seeing as much difference in activity from south to north as one might expect.

PNC is the most import nut pest of pecan, although some producers with pecan weevil might argue that point, and proper management is the corner stone of the IPM program. I feel that the best money you can spend on your pest management program is using the PNC pheromone traps. These traps will provide real

time information on activity for your orchard. For producers that can use the internet, information on PNC activity is posted (PNC prediction map) on <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org> under maps/PNC risk map. At this location you can see what PNC is doing across the pecan belt. The black and white markers are locations of volunteer producers that are reporting PNC trap data. When trap information is received the marker turns green. When the decision window opens which is the time when a producer can go to the orchard and make a decision on if a treatment is warranted the marker turns yellow. When that decision window closes the marker turns red. For producers that are running their own traps you can make a prediction locations on egg lay for your orchard from your trap catch data at two different web sites

For <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org>, go to maps and PNC forecast. Click off the warning then place a marker on your orchard site with a right click of the mouse. Next enter the date of your first significant moth catch (first date of two consecutive collection nights) the program will provide you with a chart like the one. What is provided is a table and graph of predicted percent completion of egg lay or oviposition. For the example provided with first trap catch on April 20, the most likely dates for egg lay should be 25% completed on 02 May; 50% completed on 05 May; 75% completed on 08 May and 90% completed on 11 May.



Figure 1 PNC egg on nutlet

The best time to conduct scouting activities would be between 25 and 50 percent completion of egg lay. In the example shown I would start scouting on May 2nd.

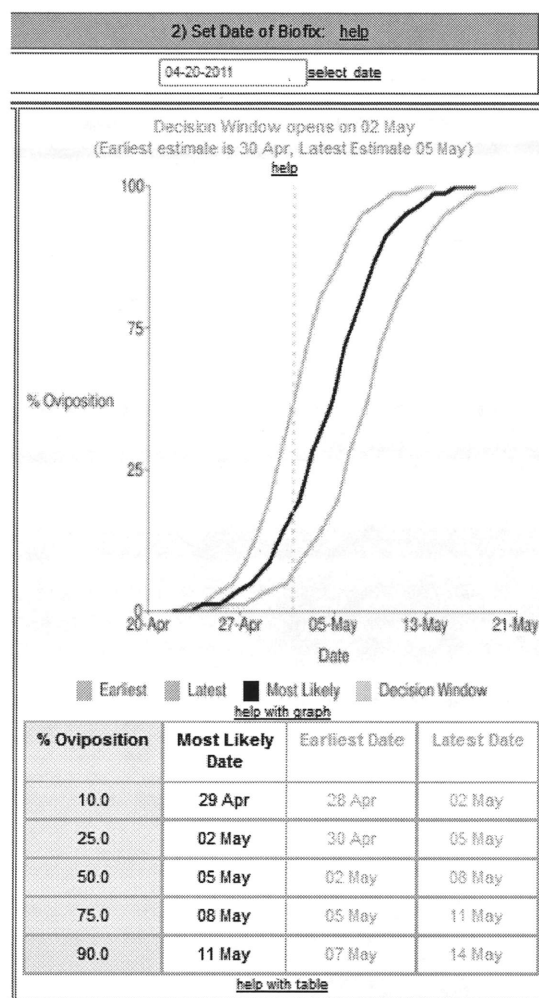


Figure 2 White egg at base of stigma

As for the actual time of treatment, producers need to factor in what is the expected time to make an application. Some producers can treat in an afternoon while others may need 7 to 10 days to get over all their orchards. Also, for this year producers need to take a close look at their crop to determine if there is enough of a crop to justify the expense.

For products to use I tend to recommend the softer products but there are several generic products on the market. At the web site <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org> there is a searchable insecticide data base (and fungicide data base) in the "Tool Box" link on the left of the home page. The site allows you to search by active ingredient, pest, company, organic certification or you can look at the entire list of labeled pecan insecticides.

FUNGICIDES

Unfortunately for the homeowner there are very few if any fungicides for pecan disease management in the home market.

For commercial producers we do have a searchable fungicide data base at <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/toolbox>. At this site producers can search for fungicides by disease, manufacture, class/mode of action, OMRI certification or browse all fungicides.

MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

The following are county meetings I'm aware of at this time:

Texas County meetings

April 29, 2011

Washington County Field Day

Contact: Washington County Extension office @ 979-277-6212

May 2, 2011

San Saba County Field Day

Contact: San Saba County Extension office @ 325-372-5416

May 10, 2011

Comanche County Field Day

Contact: Comanche County Extension office @ 325-356-2539

May 12, 2011

El Paso County Field Day

Contact: El Paso County Extension office @ 915-860-2515

State Meeting

March 29-30, 2011

Georgia Pecan Growers Annual conference

Perry, GA

Contact: Janice Dees @ 229-382-2187

June 16-17, 2011

Tri State ArkLaMiss Pecan Trade Show and Convention

Bossier City, LA

Contact: Stephen Norman @ 318-448-3139

June 26 – 28, 2011

Oklahoma Pecan Growers Conference

Bartlesville, OK

Contact: Janice Landgraf @ 580-795-7644

July 10-13, 2011

Texas Pecan Growers Annual Conference and Trade show

Frisco, TX

Contact: TPGA @ 979-846-3285

The information given herein is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names are made with the understanding that no endorsement by the Texas AgriLife Extension Service is implied.

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