

## **Reoccurrence of anthracnose on pecan leaves**

Jason Brock and Tim Brenneman

UGA Dept. of Plant Pathology

July 2, 2010

In June and July of 2009, a leaf scorch was reported from multiple counties across Georgia. Based on the symptoms and isolation of the fungus *Glomerella cingulata*, leaf anthracnose appeared to be the problem. This was thought to be due to unique weather conditions and hoped not to be a reoccurring issue. Last week, we received samples from several locations with a similar leaf scorch. A couple pathogenic fungi have been recovered from the leaves, including *Glomerella cingulata*.

Without data or much experience with anthracnose on pecan, we can look to other crops for generalities.

1. The anthracnose observed over the past two years is probably due to the high frequency of spring rains both years, and the carry over of inoculum this year from 2009. On deciduous trees, anthracnose will overwinter in infected twigs or dead leaf litter. In the spring, spores spread via splashing rain to new growth. On most deciduous trees the progress of the disease slows and becomes negligible during hot, dry weather.
2. The most effective class should be the QoI (strobilurin) fungicides.
3. In addition to the QoI's, the triazoles (DMIs) and thiophanate-methyl (Topsin M) have also been listed as options for control of anthracnose on trees and nut crops, and recent trials have shown improved control from phosphite containing fungicides (Agri-Fos, K-Phite, and Phostrol, Fungi-Phite) when used in combination with other products. A table of these fungicide classes is provided below.
4. Proper timing of application is critical for all fungicides. Once symptoms develop or become severe, anthracnose can't be effectively controlled during the current season. It is important to remember that fungicide applications to protect the fruit will be important for both scab and anthracnose. Recent frequent rains have created a high risk for nut scab since we are in the stage of rapid sizing when nuts are very susceptible. This is a critical time of the season for growers to maintain a strong fungicide program.

Fungicide Class	Common Name	Trade Name
MBCs (Benzimidazoles)	thiophanate-methyl	Topsin-M
QoIs (strobilurins)	azoxystrobin	Abound Heritage ½ of Quilt (Xcel) ½ Quadris Top
	kresoxim-methyl	Sovran
	pyraclostrobin	Headline
	trifloxystrobin	½ of Stratego
DMIs (triazoles, sterol inhibitors)	propiconazole	Orbit Propimax Bumper Tilt ½ Stratego ½ Quilt (Xcel)
	fenbuconazole	Enable
	tebuconazole	Folicur Tebuzole Monsoon Orius Toledo
	difenoconazole	½ Quadris Top