

Insect Control for 2008

Will Hudson

Extension Entomologist

University of Georgia

Phylloxera



Pecan Nut Casebearer

- Mild winter in 2006
- Early emergence of overwintering moths
- Extended flight during leaf-out
- Lots of moths over 3-4 week period
- Single spray wasn't enough for many



Pecan Nut Casebearer

- Mild winter in 2007
- Very heavy crop set
- Few moths captured in traps
- Little to no damage in most orchards



PNC Cycle



- Eggs are laid on nutlets just after polination
- Newly hatched caterpillars descend to the buds below to feed for a few days
- Once they return to the cluster, they enter the nutlets and are difficult to control
- Timing is critical to minimize damage

Picture copied from Texas A&M University website:

http://pecankernel.tamu.edu/insect_update/

Finding PNC Eggs



- Traps out by first week of April
- Once the first moth is caught in the pheromone trap the search for eggs begins.
- Eggs are tan colored at first and are laid on the nutlets.
The eggs turn pink then red just before the larvae hatch out.
- Search 10 clusters from each of 12 trees twice each week to find eggs.

Picture copied from Texas A&M University website:

http://pecankernel.tamu.edu/insect_update/



UGA2666046

Casebearer Management Options

- Do nothing, and hope for the best
- Trapping moths
 - Pheromone traps out by early April
 - Once first moths are caught, begin looking for eggs, or
 - Apply insecticides 7-10 days after first “peak” of flight
- Add insecticide to first post-pollination cover spray or spray nearest May 15.

PECAN SPITTLEBUG

- Thresholds are fuzzy
- Little research on mature trees in the orchard
- Easily controlled with Trimax/Provado



Spittlebugs 2007

	No. nuts on 7/6	No. nuts on 9/27
INFESTED (50 clusters)	161	143
CLEAN (50 clusters)	163	146

Extension Programs

- Annual spray guide
- Scout school March (odd years)
- Field days (Sept 11)
- Telephone hotline and direct line
 - 1-800-851-2847
- Websites and handbook
 - <http://sacs.cpes.peachnet.edu/pecan/>
 - www.ugapecan.org
- Newsletter
- Grower association meetings
 - GPGA annual meeting in May in Albany (May 3)
 - GFVPA meeting in January in Savannah