



## *Tree Fruit IPM Advisory: April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005*

### \*\*\*\*\*Insect Advisory\*\*\*\*\*

**CODLING MOTH:** Traps should be set sometime this week in all northern Utah locations. As previously mentioned, at least two traps should be set at any given site (unless it's just a backyard scenario). To increase the chance of getting an accurate biofix (= first moths caught at a site), try to set 1 trap per 3-5 acres.

**PEACH TWIG BORER:** Bloom is an ideal time to target this pest. If peach, nectarine, or plum trees are flowering or at early petal-fall, a well-timed spray can be made for this pest. Bt, in particular, is a very effective and non-disruptive insecticide for PTB, as are Success and Dimilin. Weather forecasts indicate intermittent rain over the next week, so if growers are intending to put on a bloomtime spray, perhaps waiting a bit would be best (or just wait a day for the forecasts to change).

**GREEN PEACH APHIDS:** Aphids are ever-present and are often fed upon heavily by lacewing larvae, lady beetles, and hoverfly larvae (all of which have been found in Utah peach orchards). However, tremendous aphid populations (100+/beat) may warrant a spray, particularly if the application was tank-mixed with a fungicide and a PTB material. Asana is a very effective material for aphids as well as PTB. A shuck-split spray would target these insects as well as coryneum

**NOCTUID MOTHS (Cutworms, Green Fruitworms):** Observations of large, grayish-brown moths visiting the flowers of peach, apricot, and cherry trees have been made. These husky moths (3/4-inch long) are not codling moths or peach twig borers—they're adult cutworms and/or green fruitworm moths merely seeking nectar wherever they can find it. They are generally not a huge threat for tree fruit, though high populations of green fruitworm caterpillars in an apple or cherry canopy can cause problems. In mid-spring (May), beat-samples of the tree canopy or observations of localized defoliation will indicate the presence of these pests. For now, don't worry about the adult moths.

**CAMPYLOMMA BUGS:** None have yet been found.

### \*\*\*\*\*Disease Advisory\*\*\*\*\*

**FIRE BLIGHT:** Cankers can still be easily spotted at this time. Pruning out cankers removes much of the inoculum source. Fire blight bacteria from neighboring sites can still be brought in by pollinators and wind, but it is extremely important to spend the time to selectively prune out the cankers. Where fire blight has been a recent problem, bloom sprays may be necessary in addition to pruning. Open flowers are the primary infection sites for fire blight bacteria in spring. Susceptible pear and apple varieties can be hit very hard by fire blight if the pathogen is not held in check. An average daily temperature of 60 F or greater is often associated with blossom infections in orchards where fire blight is present. However, infection can also happen even if the daily average does not exceed 60 F. If there have been 3 or 4 days of relatively warm weather (averages in the high 50s F) followed by a rain, then there may also be a high risk of infection. At this time, it would be wise to remove fire blight cankers by pruning them out and destroying the cuttings. Streptomycin (usually formulated as Agrimycin) or oxytetracycline right before a rain can help prevent infection. Irrigation that drenches flowers should be minimized during bloom. For more information on fire blight in Utah, visit the USU Plant Pathology website at [http://extension.usu.edu/plantpath/fruit\\_diseases/fd\\_fire\\_blight.htm](http://extension.usu.edu/plantpath/fruit_diseases/fd_fire_blight.htm).

**CORYNEUM BLIGHT (Peach Shothole):** Another reminder to scout for coryneum cankers and treat trees with a history of problems with this disease. Reddish, sunken lesions on year-old wood and gumming on dark, unopened buds are fairly diagnostic of coryneum blight at this time of year. Selective pruning to remove these infections should help reduce the number of spores that are spread by spring rains. A shuck-split or shuck-fall spray of Bravo (Daconil for home use), Abound, Captan, Ziram, or Pristine may be necessary in orchards where fall or delayed-dormant fungicide applications were not made.

**PEACH POWDERY MILDEW:** Treatments, if necessary, generally need to be applied around petal fall or shuck-split. Recommended materials include sulfur, Rally, Orbit, Abound (Abound should do double-duty by suppressing coryneum blight, too), horticultural mineral oil (don't mix with sulfur or apply soon after a sulfur application), and Flint. For more information on powdery mildew on stone fruit, visit [http://extension.usu.edu/plantpath/fruit\\_diseases/fd\\_pwdymil.htm](http://extension.usu.edu/plantpath/fruit_diseases/fd_pwdymil.htm) or the WSU Crop Protection Guide (<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/eb0419/eb0419.pdf>).

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