Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
TEXAS PECAN PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

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GENERAL

Well we have made it through a difficult month and the start of harvest is not far down the road. Concerns at this time are water, pecan weevil, stink bugs and wildlife. Of these I would say wildlife management is the most challenging.

DEFOLIATION ISSUES

Earlier this month it was brought to my attention and others of some significant defoliation of entire compound leaves. The defoliation starts with the blackening of the leaf rachis as indicated by the arrow in the picture below with the attached leaflets turning brown. As the blackening progresses downward the leaflets turn brown and the entire compound leaf drops. The problem seems to be worse on Pawnee but other varieties have also shown this problem.

Figure 1 Blackening of leaf rachis

At this time the cause is unknown. If anyone has experienced this "significant" defoliation I would like to hear about it.

Figure 2 Shed compound leaves under Pawnee during late July and early August

INSECTS

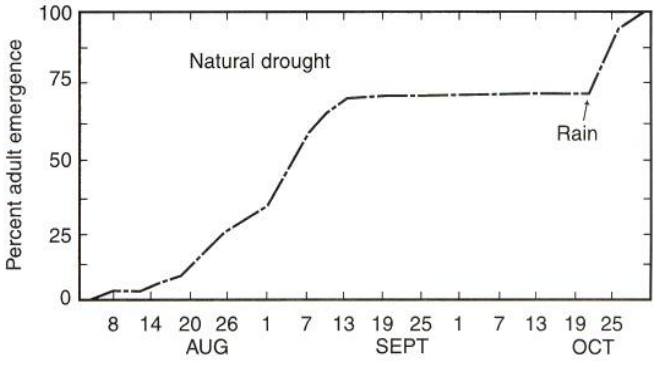
Black pecan aphids: It is always a point of discussion on how late in the season do you control foliage pests. I would say at least through September. If black aphid infestations occur, hopefully it will be localized or the treatment can be applied in combination with an application for another pest such as pecan weevil or stink bug. Look for the characteristic rectangular yellow necrotic areas on the individual leaflets. Black pecan aphids, both adults and nymphs can be found on both the underside and topside of leaflets.

Stink bugs: This is the time of year adult stink bugs move from surrounding host plants to pecans. Pecan is only a feeding host for adults and not a reproduction host plant so adults have to migrate in from other areas. Unfortunately we do not have any threshold data to help

make management decisions. With stink bugs and leaffooted bugs being able to feed through the shell and cause damage up to and during harvest, the pre-harvest interval (PHI) for a particular product becomes important. For the pyrethroid class of insecticides the PHI can run from 21 days down to only 3 days for Danitol.

Figure 3. Brown stink bug feeding on pecan

Pecan Weevil:
The first insecticide application or pecan weevil should be out by now. A good weevil management program will take at least two applications with the second application 10 days after the first. One of the biggest downfalls for pecan weevil management is the late drought delayed emergence of adults. The chart below is from the work done by Dr. Marvin Harris which shows the emergence of adults in mid October following a rain.



Pecan weevil females can lay eggs in pecans up to shuck split so monitoring adult emergence up to shuck split of the latest maturing variety is important. After harvest if pecan weevil grubs are observed emerging from nuts look back 6 weeks to see what happened in your program that allowed females to lay eggs in nuts.

I also encourage producers to keep records on any activity that relates to weevils. Everything from yield, percent damage, treatments made – date, product used and rates, rainfall and/or irrigation events are all important information.

WILDLIFE DAMAGE

Squirrels: I have had several inquiries this month about localized dead branches in trees and the problem is squirrels. Many people think of squirrel damage as nut predation but they can do just as much damage to the tree. For some reason they like to chew on small branches – either for moisture, food and just plain wanting to be mean, but whatever the case they can and do kill these small branches. Management options will vary according to location (urban setting or commercial orchards) but the choices are: 1) exclusion – placing barriers around the tree trunk and cutting back limbs from other trees to prevent tree to tree movement; 2) hunting or 3) trapping to relocate

Figure 4 Typical squirrel damage

Crows: I don't think there is any such thing as "crow management" but rather it is crow harassment in order to keep them moving. Harassment can be propane cannons, scare devices, scare crows, noise makers placed in trees and I have heard of good reports about Bird Gard www.BirdGard.com. There are plans for crow traps on the internet and there is a crow (avian) toxicant that is labeled for crows and pecans but in my opinion it is too late to start with the toxicant.

Feral hogs: Here again, depending on location, orchard size, etc., management options are: exclusion, trapping and hunting. Below I have posted links for two sources of information on feral hogs.

http://feralhogs.tamu.edu/
Wild Pig Management Video Series

UP COMING MEETINGS

September 3, 2015
Georgia Pecan Growers Fall Field Day
Contact: Janice@georgiapecan.org

September 17, 2015
Alabama Pecan Growers Annual Meeting
Gulf Coast Research Center
Fairhope, AL

Southeastern Pecan Growers Conference
Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort
Destin, FL
Contact: SEPGA @
Vickijenkins.sepga@live.com or
662-902-1637

July 10 – 13, 2016
TPGA Annual Conference and Trade Show
Embassy Suites
San Marcos, TX

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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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2016
Feb. 26-27, 2016

Table 1. Fungicides labeled for control of Pecan Scab and generally considered effective, 2015.

Active Ingredient	Fungicide Resistance	Tradename(s)*	Max product per acre per application and

	Group (FRAC)		total product per acre allowed per year**
Azoxystrobin	11	Abound (Syngenta)	12 oz/A; 73.8 oz/A/yr
Azoxystrobin + Difenconazole	11,3	Quadris Top (Syngenta)	14 oz/A; 56 oz/A/yr
Azoxystrobin + Propiconazole	11,3	Quilt (Syngenta), Quilt Xcel (Syngenta)	27.5 oz/A; 122 oz/A/yr 21 oz/A; 115 oz/A/yr
Dodine	12	ELast 400 (Aceto)	3 pt/A; 18 pt/A/yr
Fenbuconazole	3	Enable 2F (Dow)	8 oz/A; 48 oz/A/yr
Kresoxim-methyl	11	Sovran (BASF)	4.8 oz/A; 14.4 oz/A/yr
Metconazole	3	Quash (Valent)	3.5 oz/A; 14 oz/A/yr
Phosphorus acid	33	Phostrol	5 oz/A; n/a
Propiconazole	3	Orbit (Syngenta), Bumper (MANA), Tilt (Syngenta), Propimax (Dow), others	8 oz/A; 32 oz/A/yr
Propiconazole + Trifloxystrobin	11,3	Stratego (Bayer)	10 oz/A; 30 oz/A/yr
Pyraclostrobin	11	Headline (BASF)	7 oz/A; 28 oz/A/yr
Pyraclostrobin + Boscalid	11,7	Pristine (BASF)	14.5 oz/A; 58 oz/A/yr
Tebuconazole	3	Tebuzol (UPI), Folicur (Bayer), Toledo (Rotam), Monsoon (Loveland), Orius 3.6 F (MANA)	8 oz/A; 32 oz/A/yr
Tebuconazole + Azoxystrobin	11,3	Custodia (MANA)	17.2 oz/A; 69 oz/A/yr
Tebuconazole + phosphorous acid	3, 33	Viathon (Helena)	2.5 pts/A; 16.5 pts/A/yr
Tebuconazole + trifloxystrobin	11,3	Adament (Bayer), Absolute (Bayer)	8 oz/A; 32 oz/A/yr 7.7 oz/A; 46 oz/A/yr
Thiophanate-methyl	1	Topsin M WSB (UPI), others	1 lb/A; 3 lbs/A/yr
Triphenyl tin hydroxide	30	Agri Tin (Nu Farm) Super Tin 80 WP (UPI) Super Tin 4L (UPI)	7.5 oz/A; 45 oz/A/yr 12 oz/A; 72 oz/A/yr

*Trade names are listed for informational purposes and do not imply a product endorsement. Any trade-names omitted were done so for brevity and space and not to imply product inadequacies.

**Refer to product labels for additional product usage guidance and restrictions

Product labels can be found conveniently at the http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/ website.