

A Decade of Fenoxycarb in Fruit in Europe

Max L. Frischknecht
Ciba-Geigy Limited
Insect Control, PP 7.311
CH-4002 Basle, Switzerland

Thomas Bridges
Ciba Crop Protection
Greensboro, NC

The summerfruit tortrix moth (*Adoxophyes orana*) was the key pest in apples in Europe in the mid eighties. With the introduction of fenoxycarb (INSEGAR 25 WP) an effective tool to control this pest became available. Fenoxycarb is an Insect Growth Regulator (IGR) active against specific developmental stages of various lepidopterous pests. It prevents (i) the over-wintering last larval instar of tortrix species to transform into pupae and (ii) the hatching of young eggs of the codling moth into larvae. It has no negative effects on predatory mites and is harmless to major beneficial insects.

Together with other selective products - PIRIMOR (pirimicarb) against aphids, DIMILIN (diflubenzuron) against codling moth and winter moth and APOLLO (clofentezine) against spider mites - the establishment of crop programs which are compatible with Integrated Pest Management (IPM) became possible. Applications of selective insecticides were made on the basis on observations and specific thresholds and consequently the number of treatments per season could be reduced and predatory mites became well established. Today fenoxycarb is successfully on the market since ten years and remains a key product in IPM fruit orchards - e.g., 70% of the IPM orchards in Switzerland are treated with the product. Based on the fact that the codling moth does not show resistance towards fenoxycarb, INSEGAR gained in importance for codling moth control in regions where other IGRs are faced with serious problems.

Registration for fenoxycarb (ComplyTM 40WP) was submitted in the fall of 1995 for use in pome fruit and nut crops. Registration for pome fruit is expected in the first quarter of 1997. Comply has been successfully used during the past three years under a Section 18 in Washington and Oregon for control of pear psylla. Full registration will allow post bloom applications for control of codling moth, leafrollers and tentiform leafminers.