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Chemical Control/New Products

Pear psylla control—New materials, new prospects

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*Abstract:* Four different trials were conducted to evaluate various materials at different rates and timings to control PP on pears. Treatments were applied to single-tree plots replicated four times in a randomized complete block design. Treatments were applied with a handgun sprayer at 400 psi to the point of drip, at a spray volume of approximately 200 gpa.

Trial 1: Nine different compounds were applied at three different timings: Delayed dormant (DD), Clusterbud (CB) and Petal fall (PF).

Trial 2: Seven different compounds were applied at two different timings: CB and PF.

Trial 3: Nine different compounds were applied in a single late summer application.

Trial 4: Four compounds were tested with a single application at different rates.

All plots were sampled on a weekly basis. Trials were evaluated by counting eggs and nymphs on 5 spurs per tree in early season and using standard mite brushing techniques to count the number of eggs and nymphs on 25 leaves per each treatment in late season.

Trial 1. GF 317 appeared to stimulate the adult population.

Trial 2. The PF applications Calypso® with and without oil had the best initial response. The combination of Actara®/Agri-Mek® provided the best overall long-term control. After 2 weeks all were comparable.

Trial 3. GWN-1708 at 24 and 16 oz had the best initial response while Agri-Mek® w/oil had best long-term control.

Trial 4. All of the materials tested appeared to provide good control for the first 6 weeks, with the higher rates of each formulation seeming to work more effectively.