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IPM considerations for organic fruit production: managing insect pests



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Fruit / Nut Pest Management

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Link: http://comp.uark.edu/~dtjohnso/



- Organic tactics against:
 - Codling moth or Oriental fruit moth
 - San Jose scale
 - Plum curculio
 - Japanese beetle
 - Grape root borer
- Screen exclusion
- Summary



Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

- USDA IPM Roadmap (2003) definition of IPM:
 - Science-based, decision-making process that identifies and reduces risks from pests and pest management related strategies.
 - It coordinates pest biology, environmental information and available technology to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by the most economical means, while posing the least possible risk to people, property, resources, and the environment.





Organic Apple Project

09/2008 - 08/2013 **Best management practices for organic orchard nutrition**. USDA-CSREES Integrated Organic Program (IOP). Co-PI: Rom, Garcia, Johnson, Popp, Savin.

Objectives:

Evaluate <u>effects of ground cover</u> and nutrient management practices on soil chemical, physical and biological characteristics, plant health

- Evaluate <u>organic pest management</u> practices
- <u>Apprenticeship</u> program mentored by a local grower
- Develop <u>economic production and marketing budgets</u>
- Develop <u>organic apple teaching module</u>



Organic Orchard Management

Developing Best Practices for Ground Cover, Nutrition and Pest Management in the South







'Enterprise'







Pest Management



Surround white wash





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Isomate CM/OFM TT dispensers used between early and late season sprays of Entrust, Cyd-X, Bt



Benzaldehyde + plum essence baited PC pyramid traps set around perimeter

Organic Apple PM Program



PC per trap (abandoned)

-PC per trap (conv.)

-PC per trap (Org. N)

% damage or eggs or tunnels / larvae





Organic Apple PM Program

(overwintered density was low due to similar program in previous years)

Fayetteville 2012





Apple Pest/Disease Damage in Organic 'Enterprise' Apples

Year	% PC	% CM/OFM	% SJS	22
2008	3.7	1.1	1.5	
2009	23.3	7.1	25	AN
2010	25.8	0.2	23.3	
2011	41.0	0	0	
2012	38.7	0	9.5	



- Damage by CM and OFM prevented by Entrust, Cyd-X, Bt and Isomate CM/OFM ties
- Damage by SJS prevented by 4 JMS Stylet Oil sprays in 2011
- Damage by plum curculio <u>reduced</u> by Surround whitewash compared to 100% damage in untreated orchards



Can Japanese Fruit Bag Prevent Damage?

Undergraduate, Spencer Fiser, determined effect of date of fruit bag placement on percent fruit damage

- 25 fruit bag wrapped over fruit on several dates
- Aug. 28, assessed fruit damage at harvest







Placement of Fruit Bag



Source of Japanese Fruit Bags: Wilson Irrigation & Orchard Supplies, 1902 S. 11th St., Union Gap, WA 98903; (800) 232-1174 (\$0.14 ea. Or \$140/1000 bags)





First, expand the sack. Next, the young fruit is positioned by slipping the stem into the center slot of the open sack.



Use the wire embedded in the right side like a twist tie to wrap up and over the bunched left top until clasped securely. Try to keep the sack "inflated".



Gather the left side of the open bag top and lay it over the embedded wire on the right side as you prepare to wrap and twist as shown in step 3.



Gently tap the bottom of the expanded sack to appear dented or concave, this preserves the ballooned shape.



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Surround Prevents Japanese Beetle Damage





Grape Root Borer





GRB pheromone trap to monitor flight or mass trap males

GRB male (female lays eggs on leaves & larva enters soil to tunnel in roots)

GRB larva tunneling in grape root

- Larva tunnels in grape & muscadine roots = slowly causes vine decline and death
- Apply soil application of Lorsban in mid-June to prevent larval entry to roots (35 day PHI)
- Mating disruption using Isonet-Z pheromone ties
- Mass trap GRB males in sex pheromone baited green bucket traps at density of 1 trap per acre



Mating Disruption



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Muscadine vine *without* a twist-tie (°) Muscadine vine *with* a twist-tie (•)

Baited monitoring wing trap =

15-km 20-km 13-ki 13-ki 10-kig 20-kig Somple data



Results: Isonet-Z ties reduced trap catch to zero which implies no mating





Roubos, Nyoike, Stelinski, and Liburd (2011)

Mass Trapped GRB (2007-2009)





Result: mass trapping reduced larvae in roots (2009)





Future: exclude insects in high tunnel evaluating ProtekNet screen









Placement of ProtekNet screening



Very little difference in temperature in high tunnel with screen vs. no screen (Fayetteville, AR 2012)







Summary

- Japanese fruit bags prevented disease and insect damage
- 4 weekly sprays of JMS Stylet oil prevented SJS spots
- Mating disruption in combination with Entrust, Bt and/or codling moth virus (Cyd-X) prevented wormy fruit
- Japanese fruit bags produce 98% clean fruit
- Surround whitewash did not reduce damage by plum curculio but prevented Japanese beetle damage
- Mass trapping (1 trap/acre) and mating disruption both reduced grape root borer larval counts and mating
- ProtekNet screen on high tunnel may exclude many pests



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