

# Tri-County Pecan Orchard

**Agents:** Jan Yingling, Sherri Sanders, Amy Tallent, Brent Griffin, Keith Perkins, Max Coffin

**Cooperator:** Johnny & Jeffery Reidhar

**Purpose of Demonstration:** To demonstrate how to grow pecans while using best management practices and University of Arkansas recommendations for homeowners

**Type/Design of Demonstration:** 24 trees were selected out of a mature pecan orchard

**Materials and Methods:**

**Demo Size:** 24 trees

**Variety:** Stewart & Desirable

**Planting date:** Mature Orchard (20 years old)

**Harvest date:** November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020



**Discussion:** The tri-county pecan orchard demo was a collaborative effort between Prairie, Lonoke and White county and born from a basic pecan growers informational meeting the group conducted. The pecan orchard was soil sampled on April 9<sup>th</sup> and recommendations were made on overall fertilization. An initial fertilizer application of 350 lbs. of 30-46-60-1-12 was made. The demo was marked and trees to be included in the demo were selected.

The cooperators purchased an Agri Mist 1000 that was then calibrated by Jason Davis and the county agent team. Spray cards were strategically placed in the canopy of the mature trees to ensure proper coverage using the new equipment. The initial pre-pollination fungicide spray was made on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Quilt Xcel was applied at a rate of 17.5 oz./acre. Recommendations were made to help control weeds throughout the orchard with an application of Select and Roundup. A 14-day fungicide spray schedule was created for the producers that alternated between two modes of action to prevent pecan scab. The first cover fungicide spray was applied on May 4<sup>th</sup>. An application of Super Tin 4L at 7 oz./acre was made. The orchard was mowed as needed to help with sanitation of fallen branches and plant material. On May 29<sup>th</sup>, the second cover fungicide spray was applied. An application of Quilt Xcel at a rate of 17.5 oz./acre was applied.

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, the county agent team deployed *6 Dead Inn Yellow Stink Bug traps, 3 Wire Circle Pecan Weevil traps, 6 Dead Inn Black Pyramid Pecan Weevil traps, 4 Pecan Nut Casebearer Hanging Traps, and 3 Clear Sticky traps in the orchard.* These traps were monitored weekly with the appropriate lures and pheromones being changed out as necessary. On June 19<sup>th</sup>, the third cover fungicide spray of Quilt Xcel at 17.5 oz./acre was applied. Pecan foliar samples were taken on July 13<sup>th</sup> and sent to the Agricultural Diagnostic Lab in Fayetteville. No additional fertilizer recommendations were made for the orchard. Black aphids were found at treatment levels on July 17<sup>th</sup> and an application of Mustang Maxx at 4 oz./acre was made to help control the population. The orchard was prepped for harvest on October 13<sup>th</sup> by mowing fallen limbs and pulling of the insect traps. Harvested started on November 20<sup>th</sup> and continued to December 5<sup>th</sup>. The orchard did not produce a decent nut crop this year due to unforeseen circumstances. The demo will be repeated with an additional location added.