



# Texas A&M AgriLife Extension TEXAS PECAN PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER



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#16-2

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### TEXAS PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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### **GENERAL**

Spring is here, bud break is underway and hope for great season abounds. During this time sprayer calibration and zinc applications are a must and if you have not ordered your PNC pheromone and traps it is time to place that order. Also, there are numerous county pecan field days across the state this spring that offer presentations on fertilization, zinc and pest management.

### **COMMERCIAL PECAN INSECT GUIDE**

The Texas commercial insect and mite control guide for Texas pecans "Managing Insect and Mite Pests of Commercial Pecans in Texas", Publication ENTO-048, has been updated and is available at the following website:

<http://www.texasinsects.org/tree-crops.html>

This guide contains text on major pecan insect and mite pests plus recommended insecticides. Product recommendations are based on field trials, field observations by Extension entomologists and how the product fits with the principles of IPM. At the end of the publication is a list of insecticides that are labeled for pecan.

### **INSECTS**

During this early spring period there are a few insects which are generally considered "nuisance" pests but on occasion can be serious. Unfortunately we do not have any threshold treatment guidelines to determine action levels for these insects so treatment decision will have to

be based on producers observations and perceived threat.

Phylloxera: If you had galls on new tissue last year you more than likely will have the problem this year. Although many publications say treat at bud break I feel that you can wait until there is an inch or two of new growth as shown in figure 2. For this insect spot treatments are recommended for only those trees that had galls the previous season. If you have a question concerning activity you can check the new growth with a 10x lens for the orangish colored crawlers, figure 1.



**Figure 1** Phylloxera crawlers on new tissue. Photo credit: Dr. Mike Hall, LSU Pecan Research Station, Shreveport, LA



**Figure 2** Stage of pecan growth for phylloxera treatment

Sawfly: There are two species of sawfly, *Periclista marginicollis* and *Megaxyela major* that feed on pecan during the early season. There is only one generation per year and activity is restricted to the new growth.



**Figure 3.** *Megaxyela major*



**Figure 4.** *Periclista marginicollis* and typical shot hole damage

Most of the time damage is more of visual concern but I have seen significant defoliations where a treatment would have been justified. The sawfly larvae are actually larvae of a wasp (Hymenoptera) rather than a true caterpillar (Lepidoptera) so a broad spectrum insecticide is recommended if needed.

June bugs: June bugs, June beetles, May beetles or whatever you want to call them can be a serious problem, more so on young trees but I did see a problem last year on mature trees. With this group of insects you will not see them during the day so there can be damage but no visible cause or pest present so check the orchard after dark for adults. Typical damage will be missing

and/or ragged foliage and leaf rachis and petioles that are chewed off as shown in figure 5. If a treatment is needed I recommend an application of a broad spectrum insecticide applied in the late afternoon or evening if possible.



**Figure 5.** June bug damage

### **Pecan Nut Casebearer**

The following are a few businesses that sell PNC traps and lures. Texas A&M AgriLife Extension recommends 3 traps for 50 acres or less and at least 5 traps for orchards larger than 50 acres. Remember that any lure not being used should be stored in the freezer. As a general rule traps should be in an orchard 30 days prior to an average treatment for it is important to record days with “zero” captures in order to establish the benchmark date for the start of a flight.

### **Pecan Nut Casebearer Pheromone and Traps Alpha Scents**

1089 Willamette Falls Drive,  
West Linn, OR 97068

**Sales:** 503-342-8611 — 971-998-8248

**Fax:** 314-271-7297

**Gempler's**

P.O. Box 44993  
Madison, WI 53744-4993  
Order by Phone: 1-800-382-8473

**Great Lakes IPM Inc.**

10220 Church Road  
Vestaburg, MI 48891-9746  
Ph: 989-268-5693 or 989-268-5911  
Toll Free: 1-800-235-0285  
Fax: 989-268-5693  
E-mail: [glipm@nethawk.com](mailto:glipm@nethawk.com)  
<http://www.greatlakesipm.com/>

**ISCA Technologies / Moritor Technologies**

P.O. Box 5266  
Riverside, California 92517  
Tel: 951-686-5008  
Fax: 815-346-1722  
email: [info@iscatech.com](mailto:info@iscatech.com)  
Web: [www.iscatech.com](http://www.iscatech.com)

**Oliver Pecan Co. Inc.**

1402 W. Wallace, San Saba, TX 76877  
800-657-9291  
E-mail: [soliver@centex.net](mailto:soliver@centex.net)

**Pape Pecan House**

P.O. Box 1281  
101 S. Hwy 123 Bypass  
Seguin, TX 78155  
Ph: 830-379-7442

**Southern Nut 'n Tree Equipment, Inc and PPI**

324 SH 16 South  
Goldthwaite, TX 76844  
1-800-527-1825  
Fax: 325-938-5490  
E-mail: [sales@pecans.com](mailto:sales@pecans.com)

**Trece**

P.O. Box 129  
Adair, OK 74330  
Ph: 918-785-3061  
Fax: 918-785-3063  
Email: [custserv@trece.com](mailto:custserv@trece.com)  
Order Center: 866-785-1313  
<http://www.trece.com>

**STATE/REGIONAL MEETINGS**

**2016**

The following are meetings that I am aware of to date or that have confirmed dates.

**County Meetings for April:**

**April 7, 2016**

Mills County Pecan Short Course

Contact: Tom Guthrie – Mills Co. CEA  
@ 325-648-2650

**April 14, 2016**

Comanche County  
Contact: Mike Berry – Comanche Co. CEA  
@ 325-356-2539

**April 20, 2016**

Colorado/Fayette County field day  
Stephan Janak – Colorado Co. CEA @ 979-732-2082  
Or Scot Willey – Fayette Co. CEA @ 979-968-5831

**April 21, 2015**

Guadalupe County field day  
Contact: Travis Franke – Guadalupe Co. CEA  
@ 830-303-3889

**April 26, 2016**

Washington County Field Day  
Contact: Kara Matheney - Washington Co. CEA  
@ 979-277-6212

**State Meetings**

**June 2-4, 2016**

Oklahoma Pecan Growers Conference  
Tulsa, OK  
Contact: Amanda Early @ [Amanda.early@okstate.edu](mailto:Amanda.early@okstate.edu)  
or 405-744-8800

**June 16-17, 2016**

TriState Pecan Convention  
Best Western Inn & Suites  
Alexandria, LA  
Contact: Stephen Norman  
[pecans@rosaliepecans.com](mailto:pecans@rosaliepecans.com) or 318-448-3139

**July 10-13, 2016**

**TPGA annual conference and trade show**  
**San Marcos, TX**

**Contact: TPGA @ 979-846-3285**

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