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.
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](image1)

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.

![Figure 4. Periclista marginicollis and typical shot hole damage](image2)

**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](image3)

**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
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

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
or 405-744-8800

June 16-17, 2016
TriState Pecan Convention
Best Western Inn & Suites
Alexandria, LA
Contact: Stephen Norman
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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