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IN A NUTSHELL

Newsletter

EXTENSION PROGRAMS
Agriculture and Forestry
Community Leadership
Economic Development
Environmental Sciences
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Natural Resources

April 12, 2007

Number 2

Pecan Phylloxera

Large numbers of pecan phylloxera crawlers were found in sticky traps on pecan trees in Cloutierville, Louisiana and Foreman, Arkansas in late March and early April. Bud break and phylloxera emergence appear to be a week to 10 days earlier than normal this year. It was surprising to see bud break and phylloxera emergence occurring at the same time from two widely spaced locations. Very little embedding of crawlers was observed until the first week of April.

Trace to low numbers of crawlers were observed on new growth on trees in orchards near Monroe, Winnsboro, and Waterproof last week. One young Creek tree near Winnsboro had numerous embedded phylloxera on new growth and nutlets. Small galls were observed on catkins. No embedding was observed on other trees in the orchard. Some early embedding was observed on Desirable trees near Waterproof. Considerable embedding of crawlers on an unknown variety was observed in an orchard near Clayton, LA. The orchard was sprayed March 30 and high numbers of phylloxera were killed. As long as the embedded crawlers are not completely enclosed, control can be achieved.

Most pecan varieties appeared to be at the proper stage for insecticide application for phylloxera control last week. Late varieties such as Success should be ready this week. The cold snap last week slowed pecan growth which has lengthened the time phylloxera crawlers will be exposed to potential insecticide activity. Mike Hall suggests Provado 1.6F at 3.5 to 7.0 Fl. oz/acre and Lorsban 4E at 1.5 to 2.0 pts./acre for phylloxera control on pecan trees. A second application may be needed about a week later if additional crawlers are detected or large populations are expected.

May Beetles

May beetles were very abundant in many areas of Louisiana during late March. Their numbers have sharply declined the past couple of weeks. However, last week there was a report from the Texarkana area of young pecan trees being defoliated by may beetles.

May beetles normally emerge in late April and May. There is the possibility that another emergence of may beetles could occur. May beetles primarily damage young pecan trees surrounded by turf. The beetles spend the day in turf near the trees and only come out at night. They can not be seen during the day time. Watching for beetles near lights and checking the trees after dark will usually detect the presence of may beetles. Dr. Hall suggests that Sevin, Lorsban or Malathion be used for may beetle control. Spraying the grass around the trees is often a good way to control the beetles as well as spraying the trees.

Pecan Meeting

David Ingram, Extension Plant Pathologist, Central Mississippi Research & Extension Center, reported that the Mississippi Pecan Growers Association had an orchard workshop on April 4, 2007 at the Truck Crops Branch Experiment Station in Crystal Springs. Approximately 45 people attended the workshop with several from Louisiana and Arkansas. Topics demonstrated in the orchard were: how to properly prune a pecan tree by Lamar Jenkins, crow control program presented by Patrick Smith with the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services, and how to grade your pecans for marketing by Ron Justice. The informal morning workshop was well received by attendees and many questions were fielded by the presenters. Dwayne Wheeler, head of the Central MS Research & Extension Center made a few remarks and thanked all those that participated. Jim Scruggs of Nichino America Chemical Company (lunch sponsor) introduced himself and discussed a new miticide product manufactured by his company.

Correction

There was an error in the March 22, 2007 In A Nutshell newsletter. The Grand Champion Inshell Pecan and Best of Show entry for the 2007 Louisiana State Pecan Show entered by Bill Beasley of Ferriday was a Pawnee and not a Kiowa.

Insect Seasonal Occurrence

An insect seasonal occurrence chart is provided. The critical period for Root Borer and Carpenterworm refers to the time when adults are present. The less critical period refers to the time the larvae are boring inside tree roots and trunks and are difficult to control.

Sincerely,



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Seasonal Occurrence of Pecan Insect and Mite Pests

Stage of Development:	D	BB	PO	NS	WS	SH	KD	SS	H	
PESTS	month:	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	October	Nov.
Foliage Pests										
Shoot Curculio			---/////							
Saw Flies			/////							
Leaf Casebearer			///-----							
Leaf Phylloxera			///--		----					
Tent Caterpillar			////////							
Yellow aphids			-----////////			-----////////				
Leafminers					-----////////					
Black Aphids					-----////////					
Mites					-----////////					
Walnut Caterpillar			---/////					-----		
Fall Webworm				-----			---/////			
May Beetles			////////	-----						
Budmoth			/////	-----						
Nut Pests										
Nut Curculio					-----////////			-----		
Pecan Weevil							-----////////		-----	
Nut Casebearer			-----////////		-----/////					
Hickory Shuckworm							-----////////		-----	
Spittlebug				-----///		-----/////				
Plant & Stink Bug							-----////////			
Pecan Phylloxera			/////	-----						
Other Pests										
Twig Girdler								-----////////		
Root Borer					-----////////					
Carpenterworm					-----////////					

----- May be present ///// Most critical period (normally)
 D = Dormant BB = Bud Break PO = Pollination WS = Water Stage NS = Nut Swell SH =
 Shell Hardening KD = Kernel Development SS = Shuck Split H = Harvest