

Bill Ree, Extension Program Specialist III - IPM (Pecan)
P.O. Box 2150, Bryan, TX 77806-2150
Ph: 979-845-6800
Email: w-ree@tamu.edu
<http://pecan.ipmPIPE.org>

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#15-2

TEXAS PECAN GROWERS ASSOC.
4348 Carter Creek, Suite 101
Bryan, TX 77802
Ph: 979-846-3285
Fax: 979-846-1752
Email: pecans@tpga.org
www.tpga.org

GENERAL

Well there is nothing like bluebonnets and pecan trees breaking bud to announce the arrival of Spring and with this announcement is the fact that another season is now upon us. Overall I think a good portion of the state has had abundant rainfall and soil moisture looks good at this time but unfortunately there are still areas that are deficient in soil moisture.

Although we are just starting a new season there are several important chores that need attention. The first of which is sprayer maintenance. Time spent checking filters, nozzles, pumps and general tuning is time well spent.

Bud break is also the time for the initial zinc application. On this subject I would like to reference Mr. Nesbitt's article on the importance of zinc in the March 2015 issue of "Pecan South", "Zinc thinking in the Southeast" p. 6.

This is also the time of year when orders for pecan nut casebearer pheromone traps and /or lures need to be made. See the section on PNC for sources of traps and lures.

INSECTS

Not a lot of insect activity at this time of year

unless you had some Phylloxera problems last spring. Treatment time for this insect will be just after budbreak at the growth stage shown in Figure 3.

Phylloxera: There are five species of Phylloxera that attack pecan but it is the stem phylloxera, *Phylloxera devastatrix* that causes the most damage.



Figure 1. Pecan stem phylloxera galls.

This species feeds on the new season's woody growth which can include stems, leaf petioles, catkins and nutlets. Ultimately the infestation will manifest into small galls in the new growth as shown in Figure 1. Infestations will not kill a tree but result in defoliation, nut loss and tree stress.

Pecan phylloxera overwinter as eggs in protected areas of the tree bark then around bud break the crawlers or stem mothers emerge and migrate to the new grow where they settle and feed. Only while the crawlers are still visible are they susceptible to insecticides for once they become imbedded in the tissue they are protected from

treatments.

With the aid of a 10x lens the crawlers are visible and will resemble orange- yellowish mites or small aphids, Figure 2. Only trees that were infested last year need to be treated, so spot treatment is an option here. Aphid specific insecticides with the active ingredients imidacloprid and thiamethoxam are labeled for phylloxera as well as several broad spectrum insecticides. Pay attention to labels for grazing restrictions.



Figure 2. Phylloxera crawlers or "stem mothers".
Photo credit: Dr. Mike Hall (retired), LSU Pecan Research Station, Shreveport, LA



Figure 3. Treatment stage for phylloxera

Pecan nut casebearer:

As you know the pecan nut casebearer is the number one nut pest of pecan and we have an excellent program to detect activity with pheromone traps and then using the PNCForecast

program (<http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/Maps>) to time scouting events. All that is needed for the PNCForecast program is date of first significant catch and mark the location of your orchard on the map. Pheromone traps should be out in south Texas during the first week of April, central TX during the second week and north Texas during the latter part of the month. For those that need to purchase traps the following are some of the sources I am aware of. Three traps are needed for 50 acres or less and at least 5 traps for more than 50 acres. Any unused pheromone should be stored in the freezer. If you have questions on this please send me a note.

Pecan Nut Casebearer Pheromone and Traps

AlphaScents

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

<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

Web: www.iscatech.com

Oliver Pecan Co. Inc.

1402 W. Wallace, San Saba, TX 76877

800-657-9291

E-mail: 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 Pecan Producers, Inc.

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

Trece

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

STATE MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL EVENTS 2015

Texas County Field Days

The following are county field days that I'm aware of at this time.

April 2, 2015

Mills County Pecan Short Course
Contact: Tom Guthrie, Mills County CEA @ 325-648-2650

April 16, 2015

Colorado/Fayette County Field Day
Contact: Stephen Janak Colorado CEA @ 9979-732-2082 or
Scott Willey, Fayette county CEA @ 9979-968-5831

April 17, 2015

Comanche County Pecan Field Day
Contact: Mike Berry, Comanche County CEA @ 325-356-2539

April 18, 2015

Williamson County Field Day
Contact: Fred Hall, Williamson County CEA @ 512-943-3300

April 22, 2015

Bastrop County Pecan Field Day
Contact: Rachel Bauer, Bastrop county CEA @ 512-581-7186

May 4, 2015

San Saba County Pecan Field Day
Contact: Neal Alexander, San Saba County CEA @ 325-372-5416

May 7, 2015

Coryell County Pecan Field Day
Contact: Pasquale Swaner, Coryell County CEA @ 254-865-2414

STATE MEETING

June 11-13, 2015

Oklahoma Pecan Growers Annual Conference
Contact: Amanda Early,
Amanda.early@okstate.edu

June 18-19, 2015

TriState Pecan Conference
Vicksburg, MS
Contact: Stephen Norman
Rosalie Pecans, 63 Rosalie Rd
Alexandria, LA 71302
(318) 448-3139
pecans@rosaliepecans.com

July 12-15, 2015

Texas Pecan Growers Annual Conference
Embassy Suites
Frisco, TX
Contact: TPGA @ 979-846-3285

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