

April 29, 2019, No. 19-2

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## INSECTS

### Pecan Nut Casebearer

Anyone in the pecan business should know the importance of monitoring and management of PNC. The impact of first generation PNC can range from beneficial with light infestations thinning an overloaded crop to 100 percent crop loss. As a commodity, we are fortunate in that we have an excellent monitoring tool with the PNC pheromone trap and excellent insecticides for management when needed. Data from PNC pheromone traps allow producers to anticipate events of egg lay (oviposition) and nut entry.

From the time of first significant catch, which is the date of the first catch of two consecutive collection dates, egg lay begins in 7 to 10 days while nut entry will start 12 to 16 days after first significant catch.

For more information on PNC activity and trap monitoring check out the PNC

information in our commercial pecan insect guide at: <http://www.texasinsects.org/tree-crops.html>

Although the pheromone is for PNC we often find other “intruders” in the trap with pecan bud moth being the most common. PNC adults will have a dark band near the base of the wings (where the wings attach to the body) while bud moth will have more of a modeled appearance as shown in the pictures below.



Figure 1. PNC adults



Figure 2. Pecan bud moth adults



**Figure 3. PNC egg**



**Figure 4. PNC egg**



**Figure 5. Frass on secondary bud**



**Figure 6. Frass on nutlet indication infestation**

As a general rule egg development takes 3 to 5 days then there is a one to two day period of bud feeding prior to nut entry.

Unfortunately the pecan IPMpipe pecan nut casebearer forecast model is not working so we have to go back to our knowledge of basic biology to determine egg lay and nut entry.

When to start treatment can depend on how many days it takes a producer to treat his/her orchard. Some can get around in one afternoon and can afford a later start date possibly around the date of first entry while others may take 10 – 14 days and will have to start early.



Insecticides recommended for PNC can be found in the table at the end of this letter.

One scouting tip that I have learned over the years is that I flag different PNC events such as egg lay, bud feeding or even entry while scouting. I record date, what was found and location on the cluster as shown in picture below. By having this record you can come back to that cluster at a later date to check on progress and to make sure that there is no nut entry after treatment.



Figure 7. Flagged event on a nut cluster. There was a spotted egg on the third nut on April 20th.

#### **2019 COUNTY/ STATE/REGIONAL MEETINGS/EVENTS** **TX COUNTY MEETINGS/FIELD DAYS**

##### **April 30, 2019**

Andrews County  
Contact: Andrews County office  
@: 432-524-1421

##### **May 2, 2019**

Clay County  
Contact: Clay County office @: 940-538-5653

##### **May 6, 2019**

San Saba County  
Contact San Saba County Office @: 325-372-5416

##### **May 8, 2019**

Colorado/Fayette County Field Day  
8:30 AM Holman Parish Hall 9937 FM 155  
La Grange TX

#### **STATE/REGIONAL MEETINGS**

##### **June 12-14, 2019**

Oklahoma Pecan Growers Conference  
Ardmore Convention Center  
Ardmore, OK  
Contact: Deann Smith @  
[OPGAtreasure@gmail.com](mailto:OPGAtreasure@gmail.com) or  
405-273-1235

##### **June 20-21, 2019**

Tri-State ArkLaMiss Pecan Conference  
New Roads, LA  
Contact: lapga.com

##### **July 14-17, 2019**

Texas Pecan Growers Conference and Trade Show  
Frisco, TX  
Contact: TPGA @: 979-846-3285 or  
[pecans@tpga](mailto:pecans@tpga)

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**Table 4. Suggested insecticides for controlling pecan nut casebearer, walnut caterpillar, and fall webworm. This information is provided for educational purposes. Read and follow label directions.**

Insecticide			
Active ingredient	IRAC group	Brand name	Remarks
<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>	11A	Javelin-WG® Crymax® Deliver®	Bt insecticides have short residual activity, multiple applications may be needed for control
Methoxyfenozide	18	Intrepid® 2F	Grazing allowed
Spinetoram	5	Delegate®	Grazing allowed
Spinosad	5	Entrust** SpinTor® 2SC, Success®	Grazing allowed
Tebufenozide	18	Confirm® 2F	Do not graze livestock in treated orchards
Chlorantraniliprole	28	Altacor	Grazing allowed
Methoxyfenozide + Spinetoram	5 18	Intrepid Edge	Grazing allowed
Flubendiamate	28	Belt SC	Grazing allowed

\*The spinosad formulation of Entrust is approved for organic production by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI).

Note: Other insecticides, including chlorpyrifos, pyrethroid insecticides, combinations of these active ingredients, and malathion, are also labeled for PNC control in pecans. However, these broad spectrum insecticides can have a negative impact on beneficial insects and increase the risk of outbreaks of other pests. For this reason, only insecticides that target primarily pecan nut casebearer and other related caterpillar pests are included in this table. See Table 12 for list of all insecticides labeled