



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
TEXAS PECAN PEST
MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER



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This will be the last newsletter for 2017, however, I will start back up in March of 2018. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions for the letter please send a note. I hope everyone has a successful harvest.

PECAN MARKET NEWS

Are you interested in market prices, status of harvest across the pecan belt and market trends? Well then TPGA has a deal for you. The weekly Pecan Market Newsletter will keep you up to date with all the harvest and market information, Subscriptions are \$85 for an email copy or \$95 for regular mail. See the accompanying attachment for a subscription form.

TEXAS STATE PECAN SHOW RESULTS

The following are the championship results of the Texas pecan show that was held during the 2017 TPGA conference. For complete show results see the accompanying pecan show attachment.

Grand Champion Commercial
Steve Stifflemire – San Saba County
Hopi – 45.08 nuts/lb. ; 59.65 % kernel

Reserve Champion Commercial
McCasland Farms – Comanche County
Pawnee – 39.5 nuts/lb.; 57.07 % Kernel

Grand Champion Classic and New
Lloyd and Connie Boedeker – DeWitt County
Prilop – 65.36 nuts/lb.; 57.35 % Kernel

Reserve Champion Classic and New
Gary Rainwater- Guadalupe County
Elliott – 54 nuts/lb.; 53.81% Kernel

Grand Champion Native
Gary Rainwater – Guadalupe County
65.45 nuts/lb.; 53.82 % kernel

Reserve Champion Native
Gary Rainwater – Guadalupe County
52.5 nuts/lb.; 53.13 % kernel

Lightest Native
Katherine Kniffen – Menard County
504 nuts/lb.

INSECTS

Pecan Weevil: Pecan weevil can still be an issue in areas with weevil that have drought hardened soils which can result in a drought delayed emergence. Producers with adult emergence traps should monitor traps until the latest maturing cultivar has reached shuck split

One issue with pecan weevil that has been becoming apparent over the last several years is what looks like the unintentional movement of pecan weevil, probably through weevil infested nuts from infested areas across the pecan belt into eastern New Mexico (or possibly into Arizona and California although no infestation in AZ and CA have been reported).

When you look at the New Mexico infestations, these have to be man assisted. Pecan weevil is not only a producer and state problem it is an industry problem and I addressed this issue in the latest Pecan South publication and there is a post in the Pecan South Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/PecanSouth/> on this issue.

I feel or at least hope that all commercial producers are aware of the problem so we all need to “educate” those growers that are more “hobbyist “and may not be aware of the issue. Commercial producers have to meet quarantine treatments of any in shell or cracked pecans before movement into NM, AZ and CA. However, the general public is probably not aware of this requirement and may move nuts to western states.

Stored Product Insects:

As we enter harvest season, for those producers that sell retail, there is another group of insects that can cause issues and these are referred to as stored product pests”.



Figure 1. Indianmeal moth adult, *Plodia interpunctella*

For those insects that attack post-harvest pecans there are basically two groups: these being moths (Lepidoptera) and beetles (Coleoptera). For the moths, the Indian meal moth, *Plodia interpunctella* as shown in Fig 1. is one of the most common. The adults of this species can be easily identified by the two tone color of the forewings with the basal half being dirty white and the distal half being reddish brown. The adult female IMM is active at night and lays eggs singly or in small groups on or near food sources. There is a pheromone for this insect which is used in conjunction with a sticky trap just like those for the pecan nut casebearer.

For the beetles there are several species that could be found around stored pecans, some of these being the cigarette beetle, *Lasioderma serricorne*; drugstore beetle, *Stegobium paniceum*; and the sawtoothed grain beetle, *Oryzaephilus surinamensis*. This group also feeds on an extremely wide range of food sources. There are attractants for these insects that can be used with several

different trap styles. For some traps more than one pheromone can be used in an individual trap. Traps for this group are usually placed on the floor under counters or work tables where it is hard to clean as shown in Figure 2.

There are several sources of suppliers of stored product insect pheromones and traps some of which are: www.trece.com; and www.pantrypests.com. Additional sources can be found by searching the web for pantry pests. These pheromone traps should not be considered a control method but rather an alarm that alerts producers that there is a potential problem.



Figure 2. Dome trap on floor in a work area

STATE/REGIONAL MEETINGS

September 21, 2017

Alabama Pecan Growers annual conference
Fairhope, AL

www.AlabamaPecanGrowers.com

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