Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
TEXAS PECAN PEST MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

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STATE CONFERENCE

I hope all of you that attended the recent TPGA conference had a great time. I would like to thank the TPGA staff - Blair, Catherine, Erin and Savannah for all their hard work to put on another great conference. Next year we will be back in San Marcos.

INSECTS

As we move in to the latter part of the season some of the pest management recommendations are based on crop stages. Most producers have cut across the pecan to check on kernel filling but I also check at this time of year to check for sizing. Figure 1 shows the basal end of a pecan and two possible cutlines. When you remove the nutlet from the stem, the attachment point is somewhat oval shaped. If you cut across the oval as indicated by line A you will see the view in Figure 2 which is the kernel sack. The red lines in Figure 2 show how far the kernel sack has expanded.

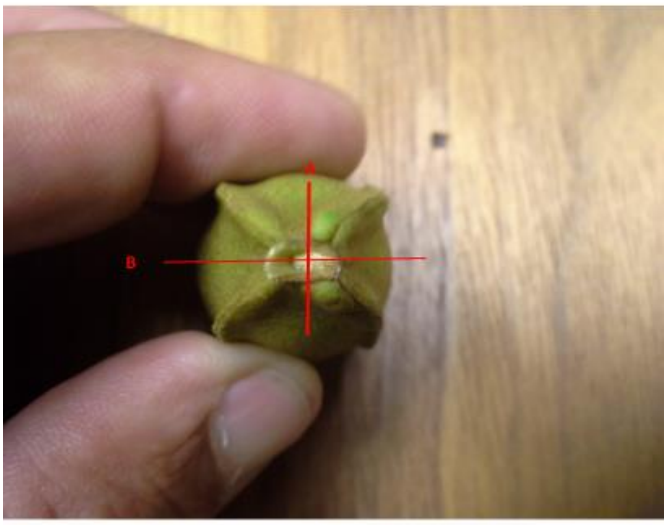

Figure 1. Basal end of pecan and two possible cut lines, A & B.

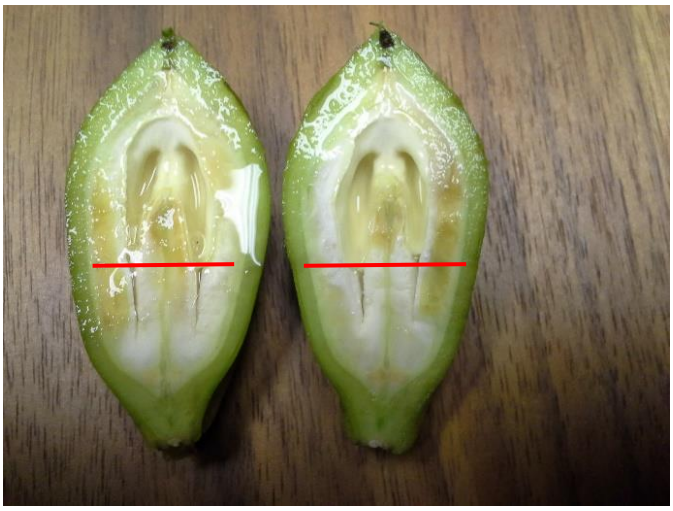

Figure 2. Kernel view if cut along line A. Red line indicates how far the kernel sack has extended.

If you cut along the long axis of the oval as shown by line B you will only see that section that joins the two kernel halves as shown in Figure 3.

Once shell hardening has occurred, it is a little more difficult to make these cuts.

Figure 3. View if cut along line B which only shows attachment between the two kernel halves.

Figure 4. View of kernel development on July 24th of: L to R: Pawnee, Kanza, Choctaw and Cheyenne. Burleson Co., TX

In Figure 4, Pawnee and Kanza are at full shell hardening while Choctaw and Cheyenne are still sizing.

Pecan Weevil: Adult pecan weevils start emerging from the soil around the first of August and will continue into September, and possibly October, depending on soil type and soil moisture. The first application of an insecticide will be when the kernel starts the dough formation at the tip of the pecan. The second application will be based on trap catches. Adult emergence traps should go out during early August. The three recommended traps are: the wire cone; Tedders or pyramid trap and the Circle trap. Continue to monitor traps until the last cultivar that you need to protect has reached shuck split. Insecticides recommended for pecan weevil are listed in a table at the end of this letter.

Walnut Caterpillar: I received a report of walnut caterpillar activity on July 24 from Comanche county. From the pictures that were sent, the larvae look to be 4th instar. Watch for this insect on foliage that was not defoliated from the previous generation. Signs of walnut caterpillar activity can be from defoliated terminals; colonies on terminals; cast skins from molting on trunks and/or main scaffold limbs; and heavy accumulation of droppings (frass) on orchard floor/driveways/sidewalks. Recommended insecticides for walnut caterpillar can be found in the table at the end of this letter.

Figure 5. Walnut caterpillar, Comanche County, July 24th

CROP PREDICTIONS
Tri-State and TPGA Conference
Million lbs.

	June 17 Tri-State	July 16 TPGA
Alabama	1.5	2.0
Arizona	30.0	30.0
Arkansas	1.5	2.0
California	4.5	5.5
FL, NC, SC	2.5	1.0
Georgia	62.0	75.0
KS, MO	3.0	3.5
Mississippi	4.0	2.5
Louisiana	8.0	6.0
New Mexico	85.0	80.0
Oklahoma	28.0	20.0
Texas	36.0	28.0
Total	**266.0**	**257.0**

State Pecan Show Result Overall Winners
State Champion Commercial:
Waco variety, 38.99 nuts/lb; 57.44% kernel
Grown by: Troy Swift, Guadalupe County

Reserve State Champion Commercial
Cheyenne variety, 44.07 nuts/lb.; 54.81% kernel. Grown by: W-W Farms, Guadalupe County

State Champion Classic and New:
GraTex Variety, 37.39 nuts/lb ; 62.65% kernel. Grown by Robert Schuetze, Milam County

Reserve State Champion Classic and New
Prilop Variety, 72.33 nuts/lb.; 55.18 % kernel. Grown by Lloyd and Connie Boedeker, DeWitt County

State Champion Native:
76.35 nuts/lb; 57.24% kernel. Grown by Marvin Orsak, Victoria County

Reserve State Champion Native:
68.09 nuts/lb. 47% kernel. Grown by: Luedeker Farm, Austin County

A full report of the state pecan show results can be found in the separate attachment accompanying this letter.

STATE/REGIONAL MEETINGS
September 5-6, 2019
Arizona Pecan Growers Conference
Desert Diamond Casino and Hotel
Tucson, AZ
Contact: Mike Kilby @
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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**
Bacillus thuringiensis	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
Tebufenizide	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

Table 10. Suggested insecticides for control of pecan weevil. This information is provided for educational purposes. Read and follow label directions.

Insecticide				
Active ingredient	**IRAC group**	**Brand name**	**Pre-harvest interval**	**Remarks**
Bifenthrin	3A	Brigade® WSB, Brigade 2EC, Bifen 2 AG Gold, Bifenture EC Bifenture 10F, Fanfare ES, Fanfare 2EC, Sniper	21 days	Do not graze treated orchards.
Carbaryl	1A	Sevin® 80WSP, Sevin®80S, Carbaryl® 4L, Prokoz Sevin® SL	14 days	Grazing allowed
Lamda-cyhalothrin	3A	Warrior®, Warrior II®, Grizzly Z® Kaiso 24® WG, Karate® w/ zeon® tech, Lambda-CY® EC, Province®	14 days „	Grazing allowed
Zeta-cypermethrin	3A	Mustang Max® EC, Mustang Max® Respect® EC	21 days	Do not graze treated orchards.
Zeta-cypermethrin and bifenthrin	3A and 3A	Hero®	21 days	Do not graze treated orchards.