

Taking Care of Pecan Trees on Small Acreage

1. Prune out dead or diseased limbs, prune the tree up off the ground to allow plenty of air circulation and keep all trash such as limbs, hulls and leaves picked up or plowed in.
2. Fertilize the trees with nitrogen in the spring at least two applications four is better. In a lawn use a lawn fertilizer and just go a few extra times around the trees and do the same in a pasture with your pasture fertilizer.
3. Spray Zinc Sulphate or other appropriate zinc source 2-4 times from budbreak to full leaf expansion in June.
4. Spray glyphosate (Roundup) herbicide inside the tree dripline to control grass and weeds
5. Irrigate 1-2 inches per acre per week or 111 - 222 gallons per tree per day (this step is only possible if irrigation is available)
6. Control pecan nut casebearer in late May
7. Control pecan weevil in late August if you know they are a problem
8. Spray for pecan scab starting at pecan casebearer sprays. Spray when weather forecasted to be wet

Do these things in order because this is the order of importance until you get to one that is just too hard or expensive to do. The trees are fine without human intervention. We do these things to promote more nut production for our own use. Not doing anything is okay for the trees, certainly easier on you and means you can just buy pecans locally from a commercial orchard.