

# Apple Arthropod Management & Pesticide Update - Early Season

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# EUROPEAN RED MITE

*Panonychus ulmi*



Adult female



Overwintering eggs

# Some Guiding Principles of Mite Management

- Can be considered a 2-phase process:
  - Early season program, against overwintering generation
  - Summer program, against new populations
- Usually, a preventive approach (i.e., without need to sample) is advised for early season, depending on previous year's pressure:
  - delayed dormant oil, an ovicide-larvacide (Apollo/Savey/Onager/Zeal) applied prebloom or (with addition of Agri-Mek) after petal fall.
- For summer populations, scouting/sampling advised to pick up rapid mite increases on new foliage, especially during early summer when trees are most susceptible.
  - Thresholds increase as the summer goes on:
    - June: 2.5 ERM/leaf; July: 5.0 ERM/leaf; Aug: 7.5 ERM/leaf
  - When numbers of motiles (everything but eggs) reach or approach threshold, a "rescue" material can be recommended:

Acramite, Apollo, Carzol, Envidor, Kanemite, Nexter, Onager, Portal, Savey, Vendex, Zeal

# Effectiveness of Prebloom Oil Through Time

- Winter eggs of ERM become more susceptible to killing with oil as hatch period approaches.
- For effective control, want 95% kill of eggs; can be achieved with adequate spray coverage.
- 100 (acceptable) to 300 (preferred in large trees) gal/A needed.

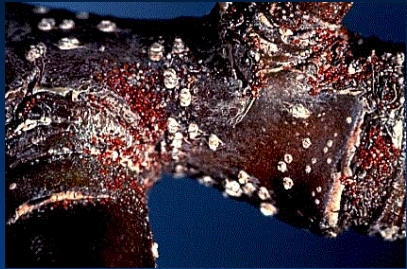
## % Oil needed for effective control at different periods (Chapman & Lienk)

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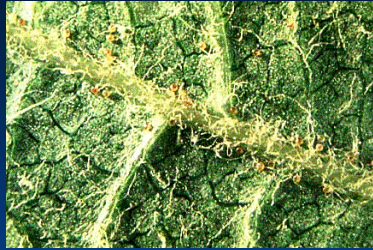
Dormant	Silver Tip	Green Tip	1/2" Green		Tight Cluster	Pink
6%	4%	3%	2%	1.5%	1%	1%

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# EUROPEAN RED MITE LIFE HISTORY



overwintered eggs;  
bases of buds, spurs



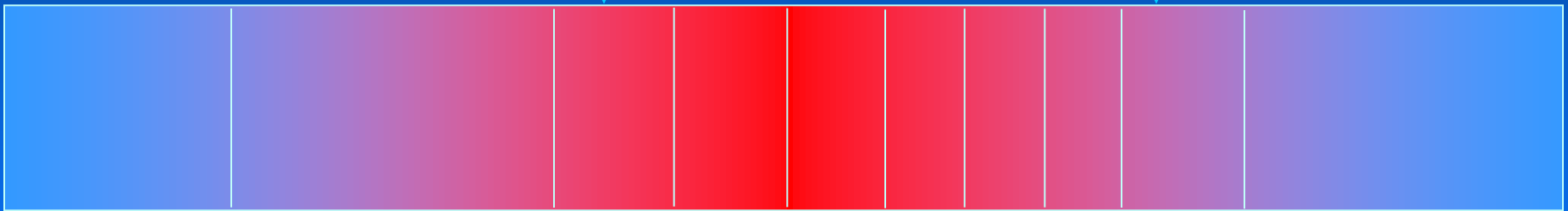
1st  
summer  
eggs



mixed stages;  
7-8 generations

1st  
winter  
eggs

eggs hatch;  
nymphs, larvae



Dormant

TC  
(Macs)

Pink

Petal  
Fall

Fruit  
Set

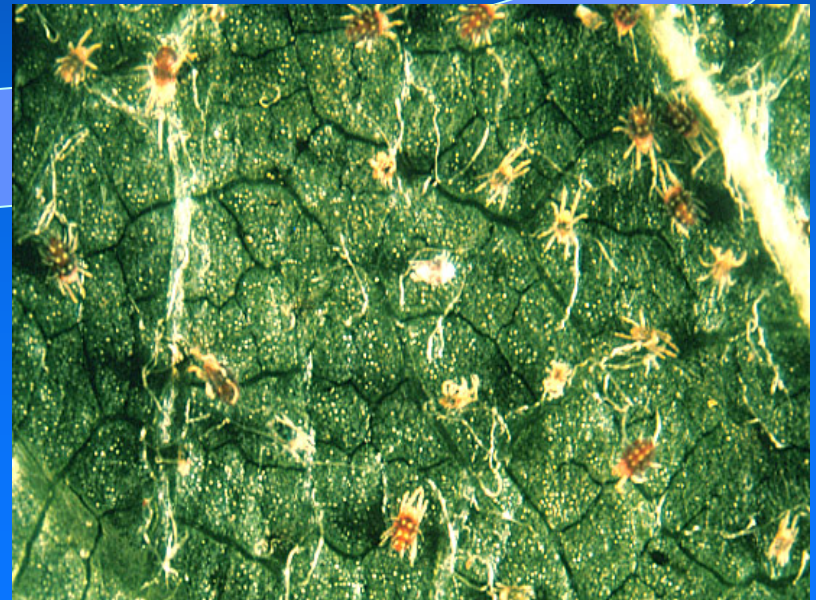
mid-  
June

Early  
August

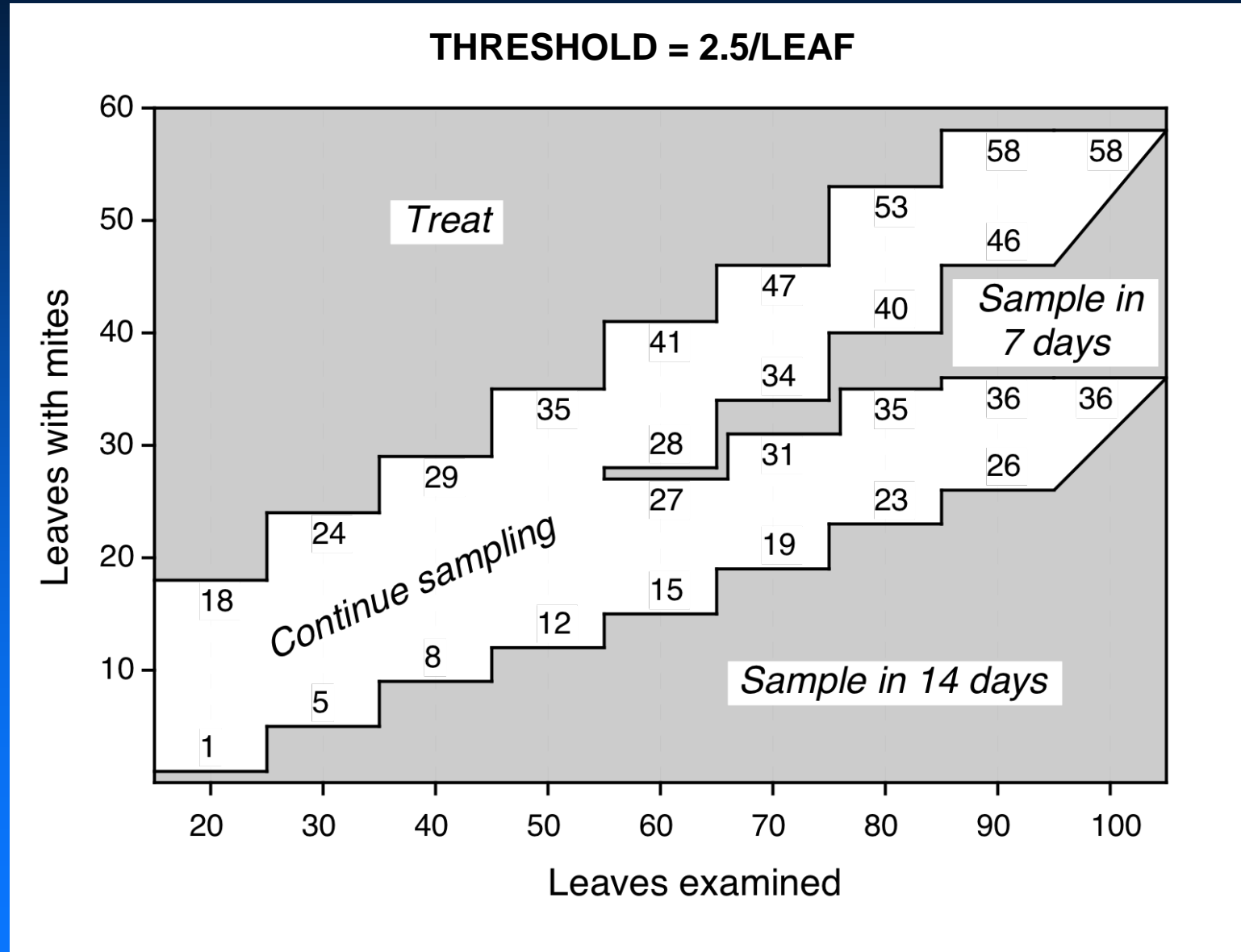
# EUROPEAN RED MITE



ERM summer motiles



# SEQUENTIAL SAMPLING CHART FOR MITES



# Managing Mite Resistance

- Because mites have many generations per year, potential to develop resistance is high.
- Resistant mites are theoretically “less fit” or weaker than susceptible individuals
- Have shorter lives:
  - physically smaller or weaker
  - produce fewer offspring
  - take longer to develop
  - mating success is lower
- In the absence of competition from susceptible individuals, resistant pests rapidly multiply.

## KEY TO MANAGEMENT OF RESISTANCE TO INSECTICIDES AND MITICIDES:

- Reduce Selection Pressure that Favors the Survival of Resistant Individuals

### Potential Tactics for Reducing Selection Pressure for Miticide Resistance

- Treat different generations with materials of different chemical classes.
- Use nonchemical control tactics where possible (e.g., biological control; predators).
- Good miticide stewardship:
  - Apply only when necessary
  - Use correct dosages
  - Obtain adequate coverage
  - Optimize timing



# Choosing a Miticide

## 1992 Options

- oil
- Morestan (prebloom)
- Carzol
- Omite
- Vydate
- Kelthane

## • Many more options today, but important to keep in mind how they may/may not differ

[1A] **Carzol**: carbamate; acetylcholinesterase inhibitor

[12B] **Vendex**: disrupts ATP formation

[6] **Agri-Mek**: GABA site; affects Cl-ion channel; inhibits nerve transmissions

[25] **Acramite**: GABA site (probably); contact activity

[10A] **Apollo/Savey/Onager**: growth inhibitors

[10B] **Zeal**: growth inhibitor

[20B] **Kanemite**: METI (mitochondrial electron transport inhibitor), Site II

[21] **Nexter/Portal**: METI (mitochondrial electron transport inhibitor), Site I

[23] **Envidor**: inhibitor of lipid synthesis

IRAC - Insecticide Resistance Action Committee

- International organization committed to prolonging the effectiveness of pesticides at risk for resistance development.
- The number codes represent Mode of Action Classification Groups.
- An arthropod population is more likely to exhibit cross-resistance to materials within the same group.

# BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF EUROPEAN RED MITE

Major species

Phytoseiidae:

*Typhlodromus pyri*

*Amblyseius fallacis*

Stigmaeidae:

*Zetzellia mali*



Eggs

# San Jose Scale

## Two generations per year in NY

- Crawlers emerge about mid-June and in early August in WNY
- Can be timed by using DD accumulations:
  - 1st gen: 500 DD (base 50° F) from March 1, or 310 DD after 1st adult catch
  - 2nd gen: 1450 DD from March 1, or 400 DD after 1st adult catch
- Can monitor for crawlers using tape traps on scaffold branches



# San Jose Scale

## Treatment Considerations

- Problem populations more common in larger, poorly pruned standard size trees with inadequate spray coverage
- Early season sprays help prevent SJS establishment
  - Oil at dormant to 1/2-inch green
  - 1/2-inch Green to Tight Cluster:
    - ◆ Oil
    - ◆ Lorsban 4EC or Supracide
    - ◆ Esteem (IGR) *plus oil*
    - ◆ Centaur (IGR)
- Early season pruning to remove infested branches, open up canopy for better coverage
- Well-timed summer sprays at 1st and peak (7-10 days later) crawler activity: Esteem, Centaur, OPs, Provado, Movento\* (PF-1st cover)



# Movento 240SC



## Active Ingredient: Spirotetramat

- Tetramic acid insecticide
- 2-way systemic activity, moves to all areas of the plant, including new shoot, leaf and root tissues
- Primary mode of action: ingestion
- Lipid biosynthesis inhibitor active against immatures; also, reduced egg-laying and offspring survival when adults treated
- Primary targets: sucking insect pests
  - Scales, Aphids, Pear Psylla, Mealybugs, Thrips
- Short PHI (7 days) and REI (24 hr)
- Favorable environmental profile
  - minimal risk to beneficial insects

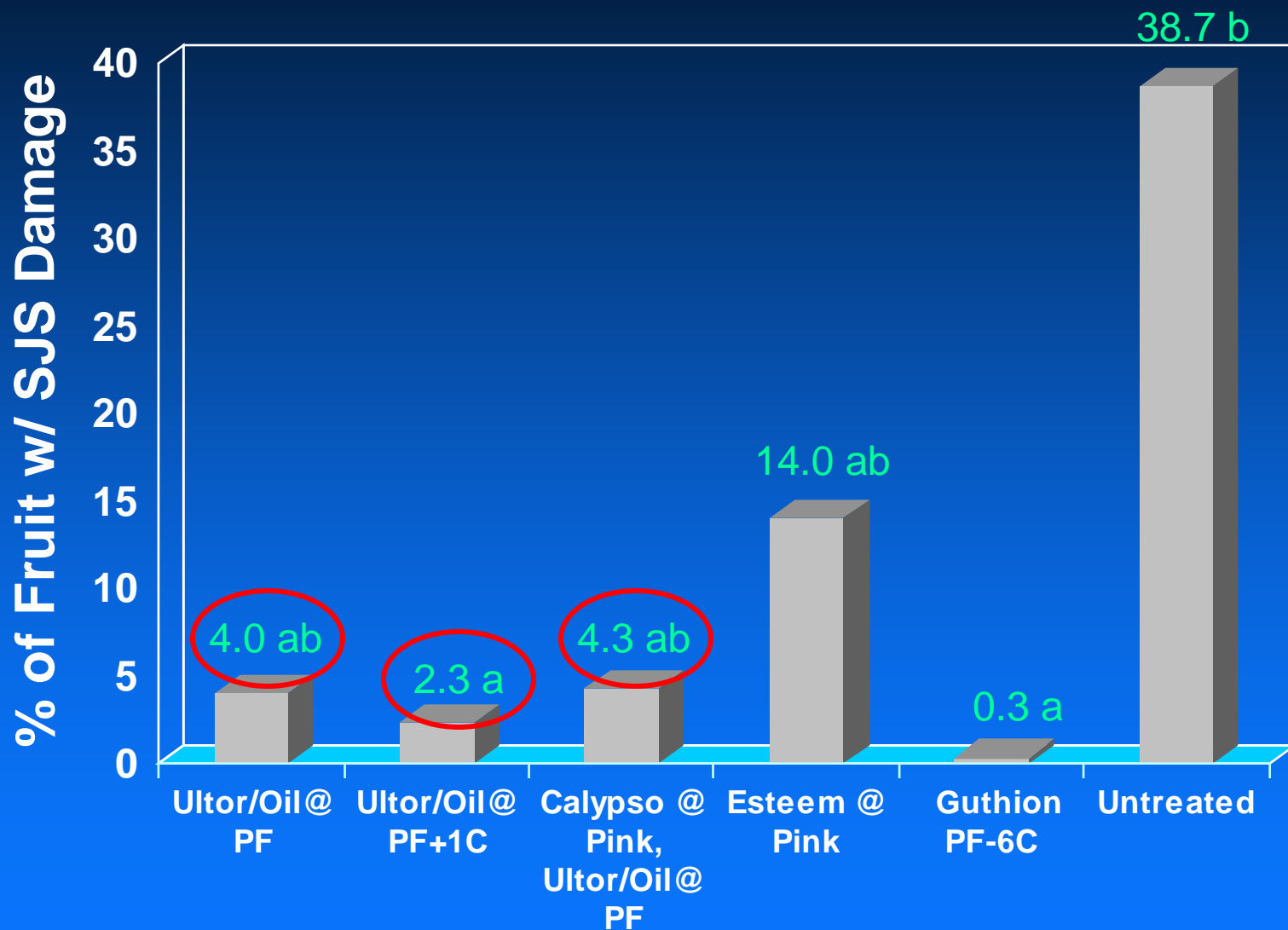


# Treatments

H. Reissig & D. Combs, 2007

1. Ultor 150SC 14.0 oz/A + 1.0% Oil @ Petal Fall  
Belt 480 SC @ 2C-6C
2. Ultor 150SC 14.0 oz/A + 1.0% Oil @ Petal Fall + 1C  
Belt 480 SC @ 2C-6C
3. Calypso 4F 3.0 oz/A @ Pink  
Ultor 150SC 14.0 oz/A + 1.0% Oil @ Petal Fall  
Belt 480 SC @ 2C-6C
4. Esteem 35WP 5.0 oz/A @ Pink  
Belt 480 SC @ 2C-6C
5. Guthion 50WSP 1.5 lb/A @ Petal Fall-6C
6. Untreated Check

# Damage from SJS at Harvest



# TARNISHED PLANT BUG



**Adult**



**Older nymph**

**Damage to  
fruit**





# Tarnished Plant Bug

- **Monitoring Methods**

- Can use white sticky-board traps, but generally very sensitive
- Most injury caused by Pink

- **Threshold**

Prebloom-Petal Fall: 3 bleeding sites/tree, 5 adults by tight cluster or 7 by late pink stage

- **Control Tactics**

- Insecticides (advisability questionable): pyrethroids\*, Beleaf
- Good orchard floor management to **reduce alternate weed hosts** essential



# Beleaf 50SG

(Flonicamid) - FMC

- **New Chemistry, new mode of action**
  - Pyradinecarboxamide - “selective feeding blocker”
  - Efficacy against aphids and plant bugs
  - Not yet tested in NY, but NJ reports good results against green peach aphid and TPB in peaches
  - Label also lists rosy apple aphid, green aphids, and woolly apple aphid
- **Low toxicity to beneficial arthropods**
- **Labeled in pome fruits and stone fruits**
- **REI = 12 hrs; PHI = 21 days**

# Plum Curculio

## Monitoring Methods

After 1-2 warm (60° F) evenings following petal fall, egg laying will start

## Threshold

Appropriate weather/phenology conditions

## Control Tactics

Guthion, Imidan, Actara, Calypso, Avaunt, Pyrethroid

Surround an option for organic growers.

Can stop sprays at 308 DD (base 50° F) after petal fall of apples

[Warm spring: 2 sprays; cold spring: 3 sprays]

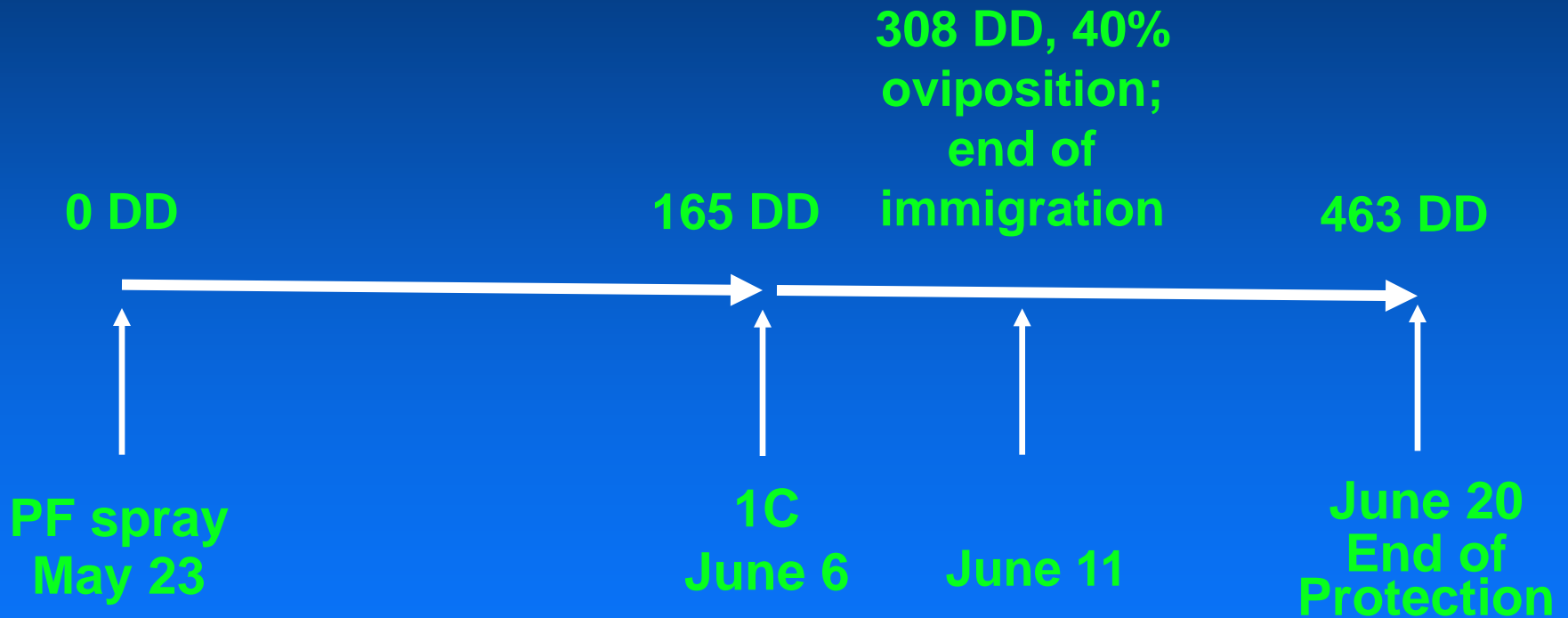


# PLUM CURCULIO OVIPOSITION MODEL



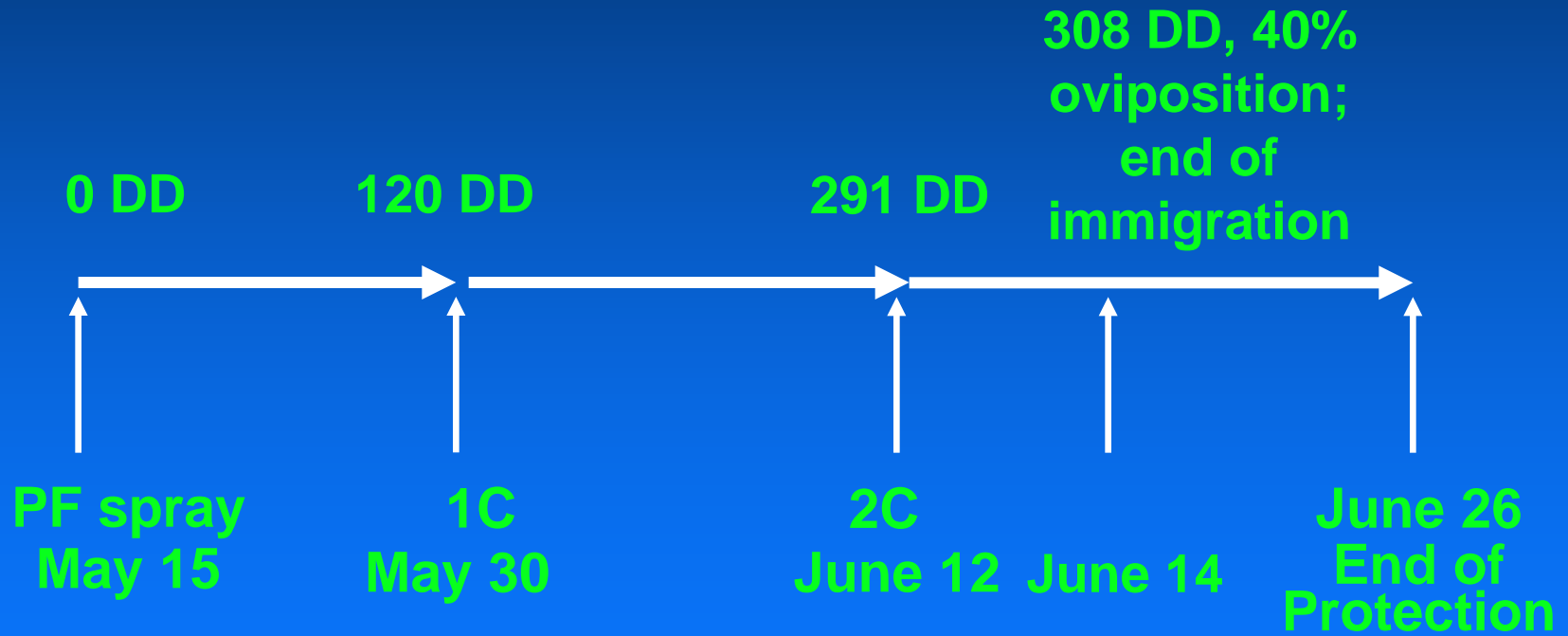
- Experimentally derived from modeling cumulative Plum Curculio oviposition and DD accumulation (base temp 50° F) after petal fall.
- Model assumes that fruit requires protection from petal fall until about 40% of the cumulative oviposition is completed (308 DD)  
→ corresponds with the end of their immigration into orchard.

# EXAMPLE OF PLUM CURCULIO MODEL PREDICTIONS IN GENEVA FOR THE 2005 SEASON



**2 Total sprays needed**

# EXAMPLE OF PLUM CURCULIO MODEL PREDICTIONS IN GENEVA FOR THE 2006 SEASON



**3 Total sprays needed**

# WHY DOES THE MODEL WORK?

- Indigenous and early immigrating PC in treated orchards are killed by the petal fall and any subsequent sprays.
- After 40% oviposition, PC immigration into orchards and movement between trees is nearly over.
- Protection until the end of the oviposition cycle therefore not necessary.

# “Advanced IPM” Tactics for Plum Curculio

## Odor-Baited Trap Tree Approach

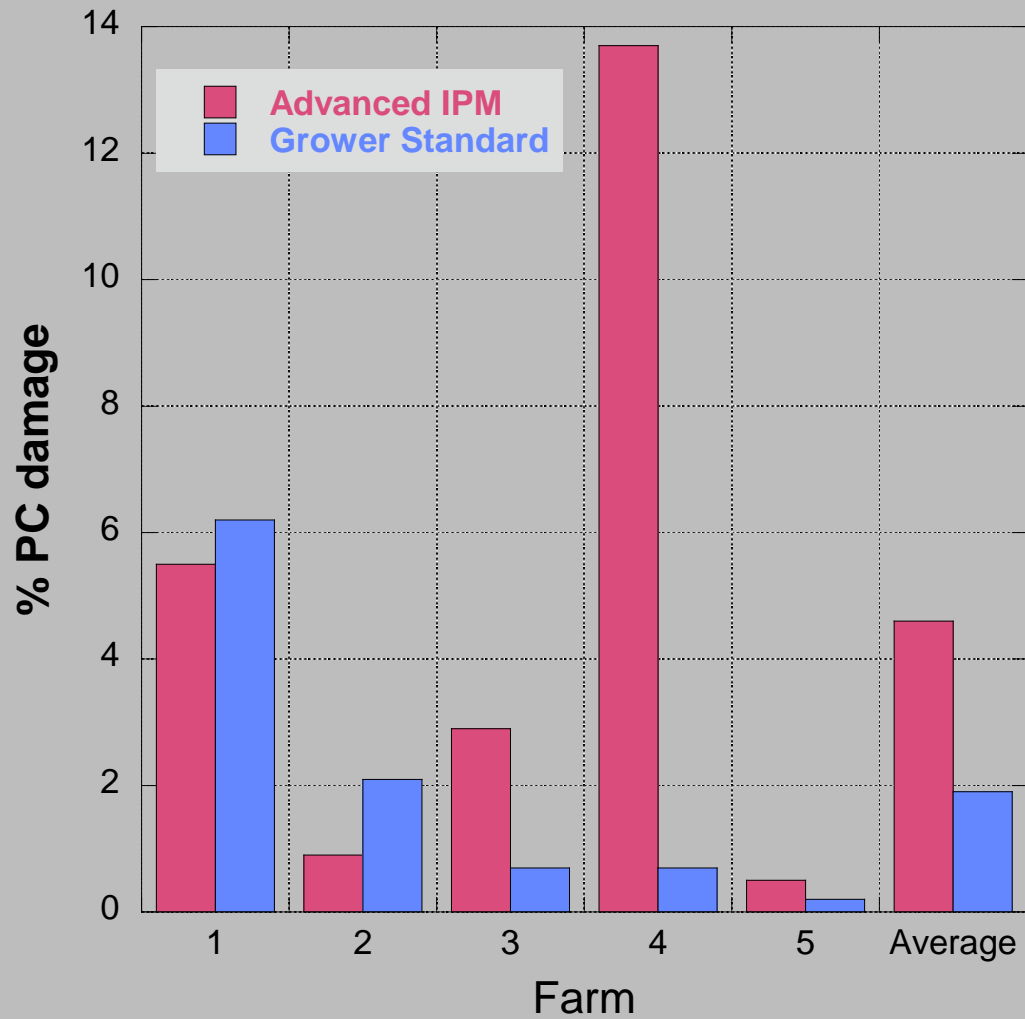
- Trap Trees set up around perimeter prior to Petal Fall
- Baited with olfactory attractant (benzaldehyde) and aggregation pheromone
- Full block spray at PF; later sprays applied to trap trees only (according to degree day oviposition model)
- Fruit damage assessments in Trap Tree and nearest neighbor trees at harvest





# Results

## Plum Curculio Harvest Damage 2010



# Obliquebanded Leafroller, *Choristoneura rosaceana*

Adult



Mature larva



Fruit damage by



over-wintered  
brood

Fruit  
damage  
by  
summer  
brood



Foliar  
damage  
by  
summer  
brood



# Why OBLR Doesn't Fit the Mold

- 'Terrible Tortricid' - Same family as codling moth, oriental fruit moth, lesser appleworm, grape berry moth



- Prefers foliage to fruit
- Overwinters as a larva, not as a pupa
- Causes feeding damage much earlier than other worms
- Life cycle is out of sync with most other pests
- Has a great capacity to develop insecticide resistance

# OBLR Overwintered Brood

- Overwinters as 1st or 2nd instar on tree or in protected location nearby (spins hibernaculum)
- Larva becomes active in spring when buds open
- Ties leaves together to conceal itself
- Often found in blossom cluster, even inside flower
- Feeds on newly set fruit buds; most abort, those that don't are misshapen with large, deep cavities
- Traditionally causes 2-3% damage, often not noticeable; becoming more of a problem.



# Control of Overwintering OBLR Larvae - Is it Economically Justified?

- Most fruit damaged before petal fall drops before harvest
- OW-OBLR damage at harvest is usually  $<1\%$
- Potential benefits from controlling early generation
  - Reduction of early season fruit damage
  - Possible reduction of subsequent damage from the summer generation
- Decisions for Controlling Overwintering OBLR
  - Sample for larvae at bloom
  - Base decision on past history of OBLR infestations

# Insecticide Efficacy against Overwintering OBLR

- Recommended products:
  - Proclaim
  - Rimon
  - Intrepid
  - B.t.s
  - Altacor/Belt/Delegate possible, but probably better to save for internal Leps in summer
  - Lorsban 75WG still labeled for PF; suitable for susceptible populations
- Usually one spray (PF) as good as two (Pink & PF)
- Fruit damage usually reduced by 40-60%
- Newer IPM-compatible insecticides may have sub-lethal effects on surviving adults.

# Implications for Future Management of OBLR with Soft Insecticides

- Preliminary research suggests “soft insecticides” are not necessarily less toxic to beneficials helping to control OBLR than are conventional materials.
- OBLR adults appear to be very mobile & capable of re-infesting nearby clean orchards during the summer.
- Therefore, stable insecticide control cannot be maintained in relatively small areas, even after multiple seasons of treatment with soft materials.

# Delegate 25WG

(Spinetoram) - Dow AgroSciences

- Spinosyn (same class as SpinTor)
  - Chemically modified spinosad to be more active and effective against a broader range of insects
  - Efficacy against internal feeding Lepidoptera such as oriental fruit moth & codling moth; plus leafrollers
  - Additionally, thrips and psylla (rec. use of adjuvant)
  - [“Suppression” against plum curculio and apple maggot]
- Acts by disrupting insect nerve function
- Nontoxic to birds, fish, aquatic invertebrates, and most beneficial arthropods
- Labeled in pome fruits and stone fruits
- REI = 4 hrs; PHI = 7 days



# Proclaim 5SG

(Emamectin benzoate) - Syngenta

- Avermectin (2nd generation); related to Agri-Mek
- Labeled in pome fruits (restricted use)
  - Primary target pests are leafrollers, leafminers and fruitworms
  - “Suppression of oriental fruit moth, codling moth, pear psylla, and spider mites”
  - Translaminar, quickly absorbed into leaf tissue
  - Recommend adjuvant (HMO, or non-ionic surfactant)
- REI = 48 hrs; PHI = 14 days

# Altacor 35WG



## Active Ingredient: Rynaxypyr

- Novel anthranilic diamide insecticide
- Translaminar activity
- Primary mode of action: ingestion
- Affects insect ryanodine receptors (calcium regulation), causes paralysis
- Primary targets: Lepidoptera - **OBLR, Codling Moth, Oriental Fruit Moth**, European Apple Sawfly, Leafminers
- Short PHI (5 days) and REI (4 hr)
- Favorable environmental profile
  - low impact on beneficial insects
  - does not flare mites or secondary pests
  - low toxicity to bees, birds, fish and mammals

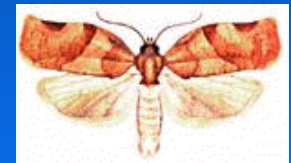


# Belt 480SC



## Active Ingredient: Flubendiamide

- Novel phthalic acid diamide insecticide
- Translaminar activity, strong rainfast characteristics
- Primary mode of action: ingestion
- Affects insect ryanodine receptors (calcium regulation), causes cessation of feeding, paralysis
- Primary targets: Lepidoptera - OBLR, Codling Moth, Oriental Fruit Moth, Leafminers
- Short PHI (14 days) and REI (12 hr)
- Favorable environmental profile
  - minimal risk to beneficial insects, honey bees



# Possible Seasonal Programs Using Reduced-Risk or OP-Replacement Products

## Pink



- **Rosy Apple Aphid:** Actara, Assail, Calypso, Beleaf
- **Leafminers:** Actara, Altacor, Assail, Calypso

## Petal Fall



- **Plum Curculio:** Actara, Avaunt, Calypso
- **Internal Leps:** Assail, Avaunt, Calypso, Delegate, Intrepid, Rimon, Altacor, Belt
- **OBLR:** B.t., Delegate, Intrepid, Proclaim, Rimon, Altacor, Belt
- **European Apple Sawfly:** Actara, Assail, Avaunt, Calypso, Altacor

## Summer

(to be continued...)

