Dormant and Spring-time Sprays for Control of Oblique-banded Leafroller in Almonds

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Problem:

- OBLR has recently emerged as a significant pest in Northern San Joaquin Valley almond orchards.
- Over-wintering larvae feed on developing nutletts in spring, reducing yield.
- In-season generation may lead to increased NOW.

Goals of Experiment:

- Compare efficacy of insecticide chemistries on over-wintering OBLR.

- Determine best application timing for control.

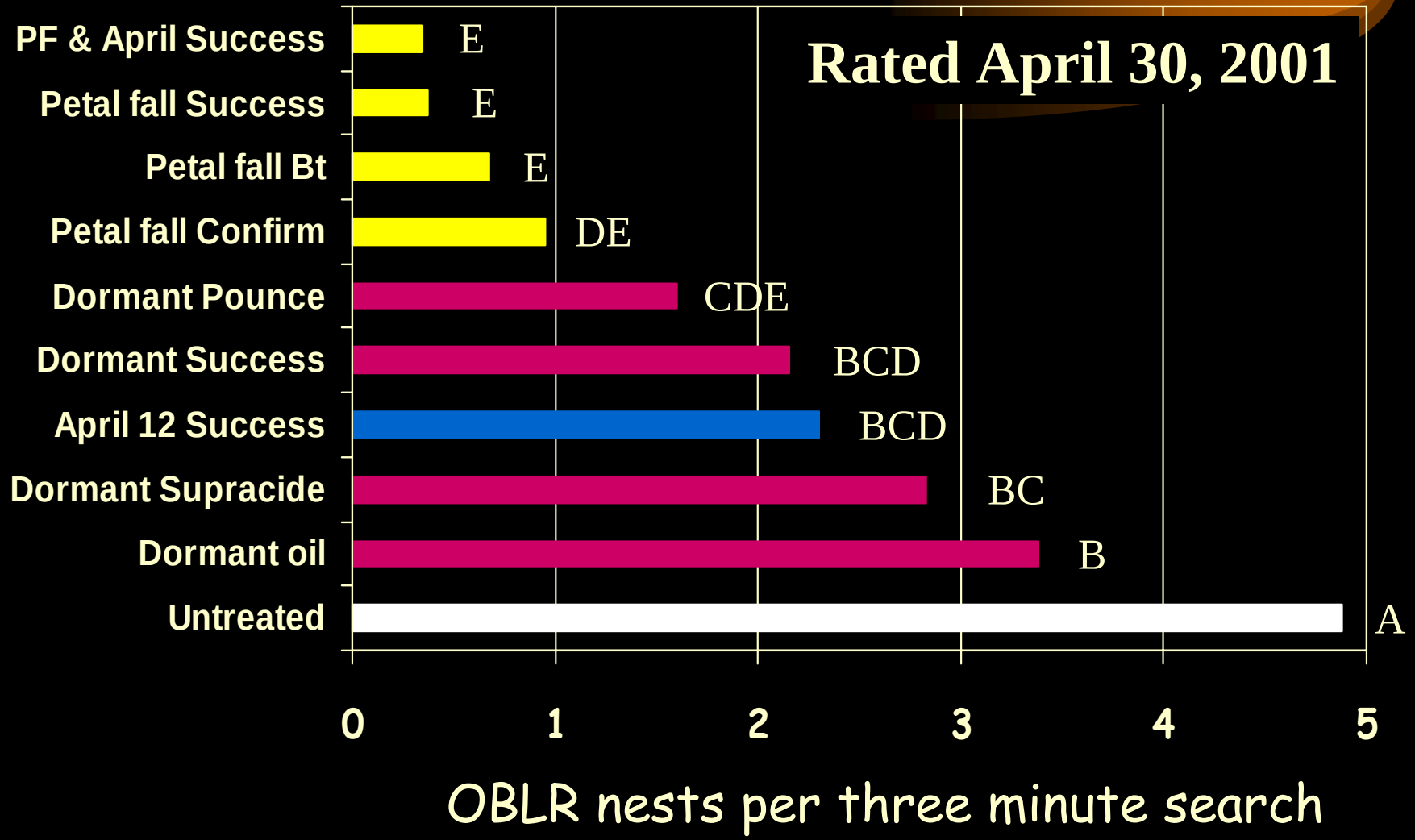
OBLR Treatments

- **Untreated**
- **Dormant oil** (Gavicide Super 90) @ 6 gallons
- **Dormant organophosphate** (Supracide) @ 6 lb. + oil
- **Dormant pyrethroid** (Pounce 3.2 E) @ 8 oz + oil
- **Dormant spinosad** (Success) @ 6 oz + oil
- **Petal fall Success** (6 oz)
- **Petal fall Confirm** (20 oz + 8 oz surfactant)
- **Petal fall Bt** (Deliver) @ 1 lb: 2 sprays.
- **April 12 Success** (6 oz)
- **Petal fall & April 12 Success** (6 oz)

OBLR Sprays

- Materials applied with a commercial air blast sprayer at ~ 97 gallons per acre.
- Dormant materials applied January 23 & 25, 2001.
- Spring materials applied March 12 (Butte petal fall and about 25% PTB emergence).
- Second Bt applied March 21 (~ 80% emergence).

Comparison of Insecticides and Spray Timing for Control of OBLR



Conclusions / Discussion

- A petal fall spray timed for 25% PTB emergence was very effective for controlling OBLR.
- Dormant sprays, regardless of insecticide used, were not as effective as a petal fall spray.
- A petal fall application gives the grower time to scout an orchard to determine if a spray is warranted.