

# Summary – PCA Breakfast

Sonoma County

Day. Month. 2024

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## Topics for Discussion

1. UCCE Announcements and Upcoming Events
2. Summer Pest Concerns/Issues
3. Monitoring, BMP, and Control options for pests
  - a. Powdery Mildew
  - b. Black Foot Fungus
  - c. Red Blotch
4. Other concerns
  - a. Nutritional Issues in Vineyards
  - b. Heat/High Temperatures

**7:30am – 7:40am = Introductions**

**7:40am – 9:00 am = Discussions**

## 1. UCCE Announcements and Upcoming Events

- a. July 30 – North Coast Olive Field Day
  - i. LMR (Napa)
  - ii. CEUs
    - 1. Other = 1 hr (Olive fruit fly and pathology)
    - 2. CCA = 2.5 hrs
  
- b. June 21 – Regenerative Viticulture Event
  - i. Jackson Family Wines
  - ii. 8:00 am
  
- c. June 26 – Alexander Valley IPM meeting
- d. June 27 – Russian River IPM meeting

## 2. Summer Pests

- a. Mealybugs (Vine/Grape/etc.)
  - i. Grape Mealybug
    - 1. Appearing in places that historically haven't had it before
  - ii. Weather (mild winter)
    - 1. Active earlier because of milder winter
  - iii. Vine Mealybug
    - 1. Rumors
  - iv. General
    - 1. Chemical controls
      - a. Low populations with foliar and drip applications
      - b. Drip ahead of bloom
      - c. Let the vine dry out a bit before to increase uptake
    - 2. Timing and population sizes

- a. Not consistent with mild winter conditions
- b. 2023 was not a big year for mealybugs
- c. 2024 has relatively low pressure

b. Leafhoppers

c. Vineyard Moths (Orange Tortrix) and Worms

i. Frequency increase

1. Cindy has been asked to identify moth larvae more this year than in other years
2. 2024 has highest instance in 5 years

ii. Damage and Management

1. Need to manage before bunch closure

- a. Spot treatments are fine if isolated in small areas
- b. BT can be effective in organic vineyards but larvae have to be *actively feeding*
- c. In clusters as well before bunch closure
- d. Post-Bunch closure control methods
  - i. Targeted spray of Altacore

2. Larvae of many are similar (LBAM and OT)

- a. Put out both traps to see what you're catching and rear out larvae to identify the species present in your vineyard
- b. Does it make a difference of which moth you have?
  - i. Not really
  - ii. But the people want to know
- c. Egg clutches are laid at one time
  - i. Some larvae are "more fit"
  - ii. Results in smaller or larger larvae
  - iii. Competition may influence size

3. No longer any quarantines for LBAM
4. Scouting
  - a. May only find webs
  - b. But may see larvae in rachis/leaves
  - c. Larvae drop out onto the soil when ready to pupate
  - d. Where?
    - i. River Rd
    - ii. Sebastopol Hills
    - iii. Spotty west of Santa Rosa
    - iv. Carneros
    - v. Petaluma Gap
    - vi. SW of Sebastopol Hills
    - vii. Coastal vineyards
  - e. Pheromone traps and catch after biofix
  - f. Distribution, frequency, and population density in individual blocks
  - g. Train field crew to look for larvae/pupae
- iii. Parasitoids and Predators
  1. Syrphid fly larvae
  2. Look for cocoons of parasitoid wasps
  3. Spiders and general insect predators
    - a. Feed on larvae and eggs
  4. Tachinid fly
- iv. Orange Tortrix
  1. 0.25 inch wasps
  2. Find holes on pupal cases
- v. Weather impacts
  1. Mild winter = fewer hard freezes
  2. Many insects abundant this year
- vi. Chemistry
  1. Intrepid 2F and Edge

- a. 2F is slower and requires feeding
    - b. Edge is more rapid
  - 2. BT
  - 3. Entrust (organic)
    - a. Expensive
    - b. Longer residual
  - 4. Altacor
- d. Beetles
  - i. Native species related to Mealybug Destroyer
    - 1. Larvae look similar to MD
    - 2. Looks like a smaller lady beetle
  - ii. Many beneficials in the region
  - iii. With lots of mildew there are fungal feeding beetles
- e. Blue-Green Sharpshooters
  - i. Trapping
    - 1. Still trapping but at lower intensity
    - 2. Sonoma County Traps = 14 total now
      - a. Same as 2023
      - b. Started in February
      - c. Takes 3 weeks to put them out
      - d. Rolling dispatch
      - e. 104 traps – same locations each year
    - 3. Other traps around 100 individuals
  - ii. Still don't know what causes population booms
  - iii. Glass-Winged Sharpshooters
    - 1. Vacaville
      - a. Recent GWSS find
      - b. Nowhere near zero populations
      - c. May be an established population
      - d. Is a reproducing population
- f. Nematodes
- g. Mites

- i. Blister mites not a huge issue
  - 1. But impact the winemaker's/buyer's opinions
- h. Spotted Lanternfly
  - i. Eggs on shipment – rolling out in pubs over months
  - ii. People need to keep monitoring
  - iii. Training with Master Gardeners to ID SLF
  - iv. Spike in Google Searches in past 2-3 years

### **3. Monitoring, BMP, and Control options for pests**

- a. Powdery Mildew
  - i. High temperatures recently didn't kill it
  - ii. Not raging out of control so far this year
  - iii. Areas that stretch intervals longer have bigger problems
    - 1. Growers that haven't sold their fruit are trying to save money by stretching intervals
    - 2. Don't know if this is a bad idea until after it's too late (usually after set)
    - 3. Clean grapes sell better than mildew impacted grapes
  - iv. Prioritize control of different pests
    - 1. Mildew 1<sup>st</sup>
    - 2. Then maybe mites if fruit is sold?
  - v. Sulfur Dust and Oils
    - 1. Have to flip-flop back and forth
    - 2. Interchanging product periodically to handle different pests that may arise from only using dust or oils
    - 3. Mites don't really damage fruit but affect sales and winemaker view of the fruit quality
    - 4. People say dust doesn't work because it's too cold; but it works anywhere above 65 °F

5. Even if it doesn't get to temperatures that are ideal for dusting, it improves mildew control regardless
6. Too hot = sulfur burn
- vi. Predicted to be as bad this year as it was in 2023

b. Black Foot Fungus

- i. Management measures
  1. Improve soil drainage
  2. Consider a fallow period before planting
  3. Plant grapes on berms to improve root drying
  4. Move drip emitter further from the vine
- ii. Rootstock Choices
  1. Susceptible
    - a. 140R
    - b. 039-16
    - c. 101-14 MGT
  2. More Tolerant
    - a. 1103P
    - ~~b. AXR1 (nope)~~

c. Red Blotch

d. Pinot Gris Virus

- i. Eriophyid mite = Potential vector

**4. Other Concerns**

- a. Nutritional Issues in Vineyards
- b. Heat/High Temperatures
  - i. Risk of sulfur burn
  - ii. Fast development of fruit