

CHERRY BUCKSKIN CONTROL

1A. Dormant Spray: Apply once during the dormant season - anytime between December and February

Use: Narrow range oil (4-6 gal/A) *plus* an insecticide: Lorsban @ 2 qt/A *OR*
Asana @ 8-14 oz/A *OR*
Warrior @ 2.5-5.0 oz/A)

1B. In Season Sprays: Apply 3-4 sprays beginning just after harvest (by early July) and keeping an effective residue in the orchard until mid October. This should cover the entire leafhopper flight period.

These materials are good leaf hopper products and will last as indicated:

Asana @ 10 oz/A – this will last about 4 weeks
Asana @ 14 oz/A - this will last about 6 weeks
Actara @ 5.5 oz/A – this will last about 4 weeks
Warrior @ 5 oz/A - this will probably last 5-6 weeks

Note: Asana & Warrior (to a lesser extent) can lead to mite flare ups. The lower rates will cause fewer problems than the higher rates. Consider including a preventative miticide with the spray, especially in the early season applications, to prevent later mite problems. Actara can only be used once/season.

Organic options: We do not have good research based data on the effectiveness of organic materials for leafhopper control. Potential organic options include Surround (kaolin clay), Oil, Pyganic (pyrethrum), and Ecotrol (volatile plant oils). If you are organic and near an infected orchard it might be prudent to use Surround (either alone or mixed with 1-2% oil) after harvest to discourage leafhoppers from entering your orchard. If you find leafhoppers or Buckskin in your orchard you may need to supplement the Surround with Pyganic or Ecotrol. The organic materials are not expected to be as effective or as persistent and will need re-application at more frequent intervals.

2. Rogue out Infected trees:

Colt, Gisela, Mazzard, or Stockton Morello rooted orchards: Look for fruit symptoms just before or at harvest.

Mahaleb rooted orchards: Look for a rapid whole tree decline in late summer & fall or into the spring (infected late in the previous season).

Cut down any infected trees as soon as possible after you find them and after you have sprayed the orchard to kill any leafhoppers that may have been feeding on the infected trees. Remove the stumps or kill them with an herbicide so they do not re-grow.

3. Eliminate weeds hosts from the orchard floor:

Bur clover, dandelion, sweet clover, and cover crop clovers (Trifolium spp), can all serve as reservoirs for the disease and should be removed from the orchard floor. **Curly dock** should also be removed. It is not a disease reservoir but it is a favored home of mountain leafhopper and will attract this vector to your orchard.

4. Remove or treat ornamental shrubs in and around cherry orchards that harbor cherry leafhoppers:

Boxwood, privet, myrtle, hawthorn, pyracantha, cotoneaster, ceanothus, viburnum tinus, crab apple, apple spirea, and lilac are all known to host cherry leafhopper. Treat once in late March before nymphs can migrate to cherries. Treat again in late May to control nymphs that hatched from overwintering eggs. Use an insecticide registered for leafhoppers in these ornamentals.