

Summary – PCA Breakfast

Mendocino County

13. March. 2025

Topics for Discussion

1. Welcome and Updates from November - Present
2. Early Spring Comments and Updates from Winter
3. Upcoming Pest Concerns
4. Other Upcoming Issues and Pests

Other topics

1. Field Day and Event Suggestions
2. GWSS update
3. Pacific Flathead Borer research

7:30am – 7:40am = Introductions

7:40am – 9:00 am = Discussions

1. Pre-Discussion

- a. Updates (Nov 2024 – March 2025)
 - i. New PCAs
 - 1. Any new PCAs can be connected with Cindy Kron for new PCA Breakfast registrants
- b. Upcoming workshops
 - i. UC Davis On the Road – March 19, 2025
 - ii. Sharpshooter Workshops – April 10-11, 2025
 - iii. Sharpshooter/Leafhopper ID – June, 11, 2025
 - 1. Seasonal worker makup event
 - iv. CA statewide olive seminar – April 4, 2025
 - v. Olive and Grape Field Day – TBD (likely May)
 - vi. Small Vineyard Management II – May 15-16
 - vii. Oakville Grape Day – June 4, 2025
- c. Field Days and Future Event Suggestions
 - i. Mealybugs
 - 1. Scouting for mealybugs
 - ii. How to utilize this kit
 - 1. LAMP Assay
 - iii. Bird boxes
 - 1. How to make them
 - 2. Logistics of choosing and making boxes
 - 3. Two part – Optional for both
 - iv. Style
 - 1. Tailgate – Demonstrations
 - 2. In-person – Information
 - v. One-person, in-depth seminars
 - 1. Topic from beginning to end
 - 2. How to implement it
 - 3. Why is it important
 - 4. Learn from the expert
 - 5. Focus on one single speaker

- 6. Other knowledge that didn't make it into the publication or didn't get published
- vi. Topics
 - 1. Grafting success in vines
 - a. How to work with the nursery when graft unions fail
 - b. Have the knowledge to bring to the conversation with the nursery
 - 2. Mothballing Vineyards
 - a. Challenging balances
 - b. Pruning or not pruning
 - c. Managing or not managing pests
 - i. Which is more beneficial?
 - d. How does this affect your other, nearby vineyards or neighboring sites?

2. Early Spring Comments and Updates from Winter

- a. Removing Vineyards
 - i. Replacing vineyards with other crops
 - ii. Residual herbicides from strip sprays have created a problem for annual plantings that replace vineyards
- b. What is replacing vineyards
 - i. Don't know any crops that are ready to replace vineyards and orchards
 - ii. Heavy machinery
 - 1. Big, up-front investment
 - 2. Can any machines be modified or repurposed from vineyards?
 - 3. Storage and processing equipment (e.g., refrigeration for blueberries)
 - iii. Potential options to replace vineyards and orchards
 - 1. High density olives

2. Blueberries

- a. 18 acres in Laytonville
- b. Planned in Potter Valley, people started establishment already

3. Hemp

- a. Issues with legality and protections
- b. Technically not restricted
- c. No moratorium or ordinance on it
- d. Purpose?
 - i. Offset tariffs for cotton
 - ii. CBD production
- e. Tribes in Covolo might want to build processing facilities
- f. Processing is the most difficult process
- g. \$1/seed or \$2/plant
- h. Livestock will forage or can use as hay
- i. Water intensive

c. Winter Precipitation

- i. Current status
 - 1. Mendocino County – at average rainfall now
 - 2. Lake County – above average rainfall now

d. Overwintering and Winter Frosts

- i. Fewer frost events
 - 1. Greater overwintering success of pests
 - 2.

e. Budbreak

- i. Ukiah/Talmage – March 15 (average)

3. Upcoming Pest Concerns

a. Early spring issues

- i. Last year
 - 1. Cutworms

- a. Doesn't wipe out blocks
 - b. But might need to be treated
- 2. Leafhoppers (VCLH)
 - a. New product – as effective as Admire Pro
 - i. Organic product
 - ii. Geraniol oils
 - 1. Monoterpenoid alcohol
 - iii. 25B except
 - iv. Foliar product
- 3. Orange Tortrix and LBAM
 - a. Big issues last year in Sonoma County
 - b. Trapping is a good idea to see population sizes
 - i. Let's you know when adults become active
 - ii. Improves efficacy of application timing
 - c. Bigger populations at start of season if winter is mild

4.

- b. Rules about on-site experiments in production settings
 - i. What if you try something new that's not a common/registered products
 - 1. Exempt products – Technically not "labels"
 - 2. If they have rates, follow those
 - 3. Still require minimum PPE
 - 4. Examples
 - a. Clove Oil
 - b. Cinnamon powder
 - c. Orange oil adjuvants
 - 5. Can't recommend this as a PCA

- c. Issues this time of year
 - i. Powdery Mildew & Phomopsis
 - 1. Temperatures will indicate spore release situations
 - 2. March is supposed to be warmer than normal
 - 3. Is it worth it to not limit PM to save money
 - ii. Weather stations for PM Risk Assessment Index
 - 1. It depends where you put them
 - 2. More tends to be better because of regional climates
 - 3. Even nearby areas may experience huge differences
 - 4. Need Micronized Sulfur withing a few hours of ascospore release
 - 5. Optional weather stations via Terry Rosetti and Farmecology (annual cost per user)

4. Other Upcoming Issues and Pests

- a. Grapevine Trunk Diseases
 - i. Expression year to year and may be expressed in a vine one year and not in the next
 - ii. Expression on the fruit is similar
 - iii. Lime-Sulfur control of Esca (Broc Zoller)
 - 1. Applied as soon as pruning is done
 - 2. Mostly Sauvignon Blanc
 - 3. Especially on young vines
 - iv. Pruning wound protectants
 - 1. Applied same-day on big cuts
 - a. B-lock
 - b. VitiSeal (on Organics)
 - v. Sodium arsenate for Measles

b. GWSS

- i. Not currently aware of new populations
- ii. Reproducing populations in Vacaville still exist (Solano County)
 - 1. Adult counts
 - a. 2021 = 51
 - b. 2022 = 78
 - c. 2023 = 13
 - d. 2024 = 5
 - 2. Total counts
 - a. 536 egg scars
 - i. Remnants of eggs on leaves
 - ii. May be more than 1 year old
 - b. 147 adults total
 - c. 15,280 biocontrol wasps
 - i. \$2.2 million investment
- iii. New infestations in Turlock and El Dorado Hills
- iv. Alternate sources
 - 1. Citrus
 - 2. Nursery stock
 - 3. Travel via vehicles

c. Flatheaded Borer

- i. Update on population attacking pear **fruit** prior to harvest in 2024
- ii. Cindy Kron reared out a population and overwintered them in refrigeration
- iii. Recently warmed up to simulate spring
- iv. Keys for larvae are less available than later instars or adults
- v. Genetic sequence sent to BLAST
 - 1. Pacific Flatheaded Borer

2. Currently not sure if this is correct thanks to clerical errors at the gene bank
- vi. Pacific Flatheaded Borer
 1. No documentation of it attacking fruit worldwide
 2. Typically lives in woody tissues
 3. Emerge in spring
- vii. Tested in fruit left to rot in outdoor conditions
 1. Clebson Gonçalves
 2. 1 adult emerged from 9 infested pears
 3. Enough nutrients in rotting pear to complete their lifecycle
- viii. Surveyed 115 acres on foot (Cindy and Clebson)
 1. Upper Lake
 2. Scott's Valley
 3. Kelseyville
 4. Mostly organic orchards
 5. None found in conventional orchard except the last tree near the road (poor spray coverage)
- ix. Location found
 1. Within a 0.62 mile radius
- x. Next questions
 1. Is there a genotype difference between wood-preferring or fruit-preferring individuals?
 - a. If not, then it is likely a behavioral difference and not worrisome
 - b. If genomes are different, this indicates a new population that could become economic issue