

# **EVALUATION OF REDUCED RISK INSECTICIDES FOR CODLING MOTH MANAGEMENT IN ENGLISH WALNUTS – 2005**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The continued evaluation of reduced risk insecticides for the management of codling moth (CM) in English walnuts is imperative as organophosphate (OP) insecticide uses are restricted or cancelled. This trial was conducted in an orchard with a high codling moth population resulting in 22% damage at harvest. All treatments were significantly better than the untreated check for both dropped nuts infested with 1A flight CM and at harvest for nuts infested with 1B and second flight CM. At harvest, four applications of Warrior (at high and low rates), GF-1640 (high rate) or DPX-E2Y45 (high rate) provided excellent control of codling moth. These products provided numerically but not significantly better than the grower standard (Lorsban/PennCap-M). Four applications of GF-1640 (low rate), DPX-E2Y45 (low rate) or Assail, or eight applications of Cyd-X achieved good control. These products provided equivalent control to the grower standard (Lorsban/PennCap-M). Four applications of Entrust, four (high rate) or eight applications (low rate) of Carpovirusine, and eight applications of PureSpray Green horticultural oil provided only fair control (significantly less than the grower standard). Three new materials appear promising for CM control – Warrior, GF-1640 and DPX-E2Y45. Cyd-X appears promising for CM control in organic walnut orchards.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The Food Quality Protection Act was passed by Congress in 1996. This legislation has had a significant impact on the use of OP insecticides including loss of registrations and increased restrictions. The impacts of OP insecticides on wildlife and water quality are also being assessed. It is critical that alternative codling moth control measures be found and tested to help maintain an economically viable walnut industry in California. In addition, there is a growing organic walnut industry in California with specific needs for organically acceptable insecticides. Pheromone mating disruption is the main CM control technique utilized in organic orchards. This project is a continuing effort designed to evaluate alternative, reduced risk insecticides as potential replacements for OP insecticides in conventional walnut orchards, as supplements to pheromone mating disruption, and as stand-alone insecticides in organic walnut orchards for CM control.

## **PROCEDURES**

This study was conducted in a mature, commercial 'Payne' walnut orchard planted on a 24 x 24 foot spacing (75 trees/acre) northeast of Hollister, CA. Fourteen treatments were replicated four times in a randomized complete block design (Table 1). Each replicate was an individual tree with a buffer tree in each direction. Application timing was determined by using degree-days (DD) following the biofix utilizing the CM computer model available at the University of California Integrated Pest Management web site (<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>). The biofix was

the date on which a sustained flight of codling moths (as determined by pheromone trap catches) coincided with a sunset temperature of 62° F or greater. DD were calculated using a single sine horizontal cutoff model with a lower threshold of 50°F and upper threshold of 88°F. Maximum and minimum air temperatures were obtained from the Ausaymas IMPACT weather station near Hollister, CA (Appendix). CM flight activity was monitored weekly utilizing CM pheromone (Suterra Biolure) and pheromone/kairomone combination (Trece Pherocon CM-DA Combo) lures in 1CP traps placed at six feet in the tree canopy beginning on March 15 and continuing until September 16, just prior to commercial harvest (Figure 1). Treatment timings were determined based upon the Suterra pheromone trap catches.

The target timings for application of all treatments were at 300 and 650 DD after the first flight biofix and 300 DD and 650 DD after the second flight biofix. Treatments 7 (Carpovirusine), 9 (Cyd-X) and 11 (PureSpray Green) received an additional spray applied one week after each scheduled spray. Treatments 3 (DPX-E2Y45 2.0 oz rate), 4 (DPX-E2Y45 4.0 oz rate), 5 (Warrior 1CS 2.5 oz rate), 6 (Warrior 1CS 5.0 oz rate), 7 (Carpovirusine 6.75 oz rate), 8 (Carpovirusine 13.5 oz rate) , and 9 (Cyd-X) had 0.25% PureSpray Green horticultural spray oil added to each application.

Actual spray timings varied due to weather conditions or irrigation scheduling and are listed in the appendix. Foliar sprays were applied by a hand-held orchard sprayer operating at 250 psi with a finished spray volume of 250 gallons per acre (3.33 gal/tree).

To evaluate control of the first (overwintering) CM flight, all dropped nuts were picked up from under test trees weekly from May 24 through July 12. These nuts were sorted and checked for CM damage. Twospotted spider mite and walnut aphid populations were evaluated by visual inspection. To evaluate control of late first flight (1B) as well as second flight CM, 100 nuts from each replicate (400 per treatment) were collected and cracked at the date of commercial harvest on September 20. Damaged nuts were sorted for CM and navel orangeworm (NOW) damage. Although this trial was directed at CM control, NOW often infests nuts previously damaged by CM.

## **RESULTS**

### **Flight Activity**

CM traps were placed in the orchard on March 15. The trap counts shown in Figure 1 were from a 1CP trap with a Suterra Biolure CM pheromone and a 1CP trap with a Trécé Pherocon CM-DA Combo Lure (pheromone/kairomone combination). Lure performance was similar for both lures except for better definition of the 1A and 1B flight peaks by the Trécé lure and a delay in the 1A peak with the Trécé versus the Suterra lure. The overwintering flight of CM began on March 24. The first or overwintering biofix was established as March 30. March 30 was the first date on which both sustained codling moth flight and sunset temperatures at or above 62°F occurred. The first peak of the overwintering flight (1A) occurred on April 26 at 250 degree days (DD). The second peak (1B) of the overwintering flight was on May 28 (688 DD). The overwintering flight ended on June 23 (1059 DD). The second biofix was determined to be June 24. The first peak

(2A) of the second CM flight occurred on July 14 (387 DD from the second biofix). The second peak (2B) of the second flight occurred on August 4 (841 DD from the second biofix).

### **Overwintering or First Flight Damage**

All of the experimental treatments had a significantly lower number of CM infested dropped nuts than the untreated check (Table 1). There was no significant difference between the grower standard (treatment 13) and all of the other experimental treatments except for the PureSpray Green horticultural oil treatment (treatment 11), which had a significantly higher level of CM damage. Very low numbers of CM-infested nuts were noted for both rates of GF-1640 (treatments 1 and 2), the high rate of DPX-E2Y45 (treatment 4), both rates of Warrior (treatments 5 and 6) and Cyd-X (treatment 9). However, CM-infested dropped nut counts are extremely variable and difficult to interpret due to variations in tree size and crop load.

Twospotted mite populations were not observed and walnut aphid populations were extremely low this year in visual foliar inspections so actual counts were not conducted.

### **CM and NOW Damage at Harvest**

Infestation by CM and NOW was over 22% in the untreated check at harvest (Table 1). Damage was primarily caused by CM (21.8%) with a very small amount (0.8%) of NOW damage. All treatments had a significantly lower percent of CM infestation when compared to the untreated check (table 1). The high rate of GF-1640, the high rate of DPX-E2Y45 and both rates of Warrior had numerically less, but not significantly less CM infestation compared the grower standard (Lorsban/PennCap-M). There was a strong rate effect for both GF-1640 and DPX-E2Y45. GF-1640 performed significantly better than its internal standard, Entrust, and compared favorably with Assail. DPX-E2Y45 also compared favorably with Assail. The combination of DPX-E2Y45 or Warrior or Cyd-X with PureSpray Green horticultural oil resulted in significantly lower CM infestation than with PureSpray Green oil alone. Warrior provided the best control of all experimental materials with no infestation even at the lowest application rate. It might be possible to achieve excellent control with Warrior at rates even lower than 2.5 oz/acre. Assail had significantly higher CM infestation compared to the high rate of DPX-E2Y45 and GF-140 and both rates of Warrior but did not differ from the grower standard. Both Carpovirusine treatments, Entrust and PureSpray Green horticultural oil had significantly more CM infestation when compared to the grower standard. There were no significant differences between Carpovirusine applied eight times at a low rate (6.75 oz/acre) compared to four applications at a high rate (6.75 oz/acre). Cyd-X applied eight times (6.0 oz/acre) had a significantly lower amount of CM infestation than Carpovirusine applied eight times (6.75 oz/acre). However, Cyd-X contains  $3 \times 10^{13}$  virions or occlusion bodies per liter compared to  $1 \times 10^{13}$  virions/liter for Carpovirusine. Thus, a direct comparison of the efficacy of the granulosis virions was not possible. Very little NOW infestation was observed this year with only the low rate of DPX-E2Y45, PureSpray Green horticultural oil and the untreated check having any infestation.

## **DISCUSSION**

This trial had a high native CM population with about 22% of the nuts infested at harvest in the untreated check. This trial should be considered a rigorous test of the experimental materials. All experimental materials provided significant control of CM when compared to the untreated check for both 1A CM damage (dropped nuts) and harvest CM damage. Warrior, GF-1640 and DPX-E2Y45 are three new promising CM control products. Warrior provided exceptional control of CM at harvest even at a low rate of application while only the high rate of GF-1640 and DPX-E2Y45 provided excellent control. Lorsban/PennCap-M (the grower standard), Cyd-X, Assail and the low rates of GF-1640 and DPX-E2Y45 provided good control. Carpovirusine (low and high rates), Entrust and PureSpray Green horticultural oil provided only fair control. These treatments had significantly higher CM infestation compared to Warrior, GF-1640, DPX-E2Y45 and Lorsban/PennCap-M, the grower standard.

Similar performance was noted for both Suttera Biolure CM pheromone lures and Trécé Pherocon CM-DA Combo lures in ICP traps with the exception of better discrimination of the 1A and 1B flight peaks and a delay in the 1A flight peak with the Combo lure.

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Table 1: Mean number of codling moth infested dropped nuts and percent codling moth and navel orangeworm infested nuts at harvest at Hollister, CA – 2005

Treatments	Rate form/ac	No. appl.	Mean <sup>a</sup> CM infested drop nuts	Mean <sup>a</sup> percent infested nuts at harvest		
				CM	NOW	Total
1. GF-1640 25WDG	4.5 oz	4	0.5 a	1.0 abc	0.0 a	1.0 abcd
2. GF-1640 25WDG	6.0 oz	4	1.0 a	0.5 ab	0.0 a	0.5 ab
3. DPX-E2Y45 35WG <sup>b</sup>	2.0 oz	4	5.3 a	1.8 bcd	0.3 ab	2.0 bcde
4. DPX-E2Y45 35WG <sup>b</sup>	4.0 oz	4	1.3 a	0.5 ab	0.0 a	0.5 ab
5. Warrior 1CS <sup>b</sup>	2.5 oz	4	2.0 a	0.0 a	0.0 a	0.0 a
6. Warrior 1CS <sup>b</sup>	5.0 oz	4	0.3 a	0.0 a	0.0 a	0.0 a
7. Carpovirusine <sup>b</sup>	6.75 oz	8	5.8 a	3.5 de	0.0 a	3.5 def
8. Carpovirusine <sup>b</sup>	13.5 oz	4	2.8 a	3.8 de	0.0	3.8 ef
9. Cyd-X <sup>b</sup>	6.0 oz	8	1.3 a	1.8 bcd	0.0 a	1.8 bcde
10. Entrust 80WP	2.0 oz	4	5.0 a	4.8 e	0.0 a	4.8 f
11. PureSpray Green Horticultural Oil	0.25 V/V	8	17.3 b	5.8 e	0.3 ab	6.0 f
12. Assail 30SG	8.0 oz	4	5.8 a	3.0 cde	0.0 a	3.0 cdef
13. Lorsban 4E PennCap-M	4.0 pt 8.0 pt	2 2	6.0 a	0.8 abc	0.0 a	0.8 abc
14. Untreated	---	---	30.0 c	21.8 f	0.8 b	22.5 g

<sup>a</sup>Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different (Fisher's protected LSD, P<0.05).

<sup>b</sup>Treatments contained 0.25% PureSpray Green horticultural oil by volume.

Appendix. Air temperature and degree-day accumulation for codling moth utilizing the Ausaymas IMPACT weather station at Hollister, CA - 2005

Date	Air temperatures (°F)		Degree-days		Notes
	Min	Max	Daily	Accumulated	
Mar 30 2005	37	72	8.01	8.01	
Mar 31 2005	38	78	10.88	18.89	
Apr 01 2005	43	81	13.30	32.19	
Apr 02 2005	42	71	8.34	40.53	
Apr 03 2005	43	65	5.74	46.26	
Apr 04 2005	40	66	5.75	52.01	
Apr 05 2005	39	74	9.21	61.22	
Apr 06 2005	41	75	10.02	71.24	
Apr 07 2005	46	60	3.94	75.18	
Apr 08 2005	38	61	3.41	78.59	
Apr 09 2005	44	68	7.31	85.90	
Apr 10 2005	41	73	9.09	94.99	
Apr 11 2005	41	70	7.70	102.69	
Apr 12 2005	41	69	7.24	109.93	
Apr 13 2005	37	65	4.97	114.90	
Apr 14 2005	35	71	7.31	122.21	
Apr 15 2005	37	78	10.72	132.93	
Apr 16 2005	42	80	12.59	145.52	
Apr 17 2005	53	71	12.00	157.52	
Apr 18 2005	40	71	8.00	165.52	
Apr 19 2005	37	74	8.90	174.42	
Apr 20 2005	37	73	8.45	182.87	
Apr 21 2005	38	80	11.81	194.68	
Apr 22 2005	43	81	13.30	207.98	

Apr 23 2005	49	69	9.10	217.08	
Apr 24 2005	48	69	8.76	225.84	
Apr 25 2005	43	77	11.38	237.22	
Apr 26 2005	41	81	12.86	250.07	
Apr 27 2005	44	69	7.78	257.85	
Apr 28 2005	51	66	8.50	266.35	
Apr 29 2005	46	76	11.63	277.98	
Apr 30 2005	48	73	10.74	288.72	
May 01 2005	47	75	11.42	300.15	
May 02 2005	43	78	11.86	312.00	1A spray
May 03 2005	47	78	12.90	324.90	
May 04 2005	48	74	11.24	336.14	
May 05 2005	54	66	10.00	346.14	
May 06 2005	53	67	10.00	356.14	
May 07 2005	50	72	11.00	367.14	
May 08 2005	50	66	8.00	375.14	
May 09 2005	50	66	8.00	383.14	
May 10 2005	44	70	8.25	391.39	
May 11 2005	42	74	9.74	401.14	
May 12 2005	43	82	13.78	414.92	1A + 7 day spray
May 13 2005	49	83	16.07	430.99	
May 14 2005	47	85	16.36	447.35	
May 15 2005	56	84	20.00	467.35	
May 16 2005	56	82	19.00	486.35	
May 17 2005	45	75	10.88	497.24	
May 18 2005	61	79	20.00	517.24	
May 19 2005	60	80	20.00	537.24	
May 20 2005	55	78	16.50	553.74	

May 21 2005	47		86	16.86	570.59	
May 22 2005	49		88	18.57	589.16	
May 23 2005	43		88	16.69	605.85	
May 24 2005	46		92	19.00	624.85	
May 25 2005	48		85	16.70	641.55	
May 26 2005	50		83	16.50	658.05	
May 27 2005	55		82	18.50	676.55	
May 28 2005	47		76	11.91	688.46	
May 29 2005	48		78	13.22	701.68	
May 30 2005	45		85	15.76	717.44	
May 31 2005	52		83	17.50	734.94	1B spray
Jun 01 2005	51		84	17.50	752.44	
Jun 02 2005	46		78	12.61	765.05	
Jun 03 2005	44		77	11.61	776.66	
Jun 04 2005	45		75	10.88	787.54	
Jun 05 2005	42		73	9.27	796.81	
Jun 06 2005	40		75	9.84	806.65	
Jun 07 2005	45		75	10.88	817.54	
Jun 08 2005	49		75	12.08	829.62	
Jun 09 2005	58		75	16.50	846.12	
Jun 10 2005	55		77	16.00	862.12	
Jun 11 2005	54		78	16.00	878.12	
Jun 12 2005	45		91	18.38	896.50	
Jun 13 2005	51		96	22.04	918.54	1B + 7 day spray
Jun 14 2005	43		87	16.20	934.75	
Jun 15 2005	45		81	13.80	948.55	
Jun 16 2005	49		70	9.59	958.14	
Jun 17 2005	54		72	13.00	971.14	



Jun 18 2005	49		75	12.08	983.23	
Jun 19 2005	50		79	14.50	997.73	
Jun 20 2005	49		82	15.57	1013.30	
Jun 21 2005	48		82	15.21	1028.51	
Jun 22 2005	50		85	17.50	1046.01	
Jun 23 2005	51		74	12.50	1058.51	
Jun 24 2005	55		78	16.50	16.50	2nd biofix
Jun 25 2005	55		78	16.50	33.00	
Jun 26 2005	54		77	15.50	48.50	
Jun 27 2005	52		80	16.00	64.50	
Jun 28 2005	57		79	18.00	82.50	
Jun 29 2005	50		89	19.43	101.93	
Jun 30 2005	50		87	18.50	120.43	
Jul 01 2005	52		86	19.00	139.43	
Jul 02 2005	53		75	14.00	153.43	
Jul 03 2005	52		78	15.00	168.43	
Jul 04 2005	51		79	15.00	183.43	
Jul 05 2005	52		75	13.50	196.93	
Jul 06 2005	54		85	19.50	216.43	
Jul 07 2005	55		82	18.50	234.93	
Jul 08 2005	50		82	16.00	250.93	
Jul 09 2005	61		83	22.00	272.93	
Jul 10 2005	58		86	22.00	294.93	
Jul 11 2005	57		94	24.46	319.39	
Jul 12 2005	57		92	23.92	343.31	2A spray
Jul 13 2005	57		86	21.50	364.81	
Jul 14 2005	54		90	21.80	386.61	
Jul 15 2005	54		92	22.44	409.05	

Jul 16 2005	53	90	21.30	430.35	
Jul 17 2005	54	94	23.00	453.35	
Jul 18 2005	55	88	21.50	474.85	
Jul 19 2005	56	89	22.43	497.28	2A + 7 days spray
Jul 20 2005	55	87	21.00	518.28	
Jul 21 2005	58	75	16.50	534.78	
Jul 22 2005	55	92	22.94	557.71	
Jul 23 2005	56	104	25.93	583.64	
Jul 24 2005	57	89	22.92	606.57	
Jul 25 2005	50	87	18.50	625.07	
Jul 26 2005	49	89	19.00	644.07	
Jul 27 2005	50	88	19.00	663.07	
Jul 28 2005	54	88	21.00	684.07	
Jul 29 2005	55	87	21.00	705.07	
Jul 30 2005	54	90	21.80	726.87	
Jul 31 2005	55	95	23.73	750.60	
Aug 01 2005	52	98	22.97	773.58	
Aug 02 2005	52	95	22.28	795.86	
Aug 03 2005	52	96	22.52	818.38	
Aug 04 2005	54	93	22.73	841.11	2B spray
Aug 05 2005	52	100	23.38	864.49	
Aug 06 2005	55	97	24.19	888.69	
Aug 07 2005	54	93	22.73	911.42	
Aug 08 2005	54	90	21.80	933.21	
Aug 09 2005	54	89	21.43	954.64	
Aug 10 2005	53	85	19.00	973.64	
Aug 11 2005	48	90	19.00	992.64	
Aug 12 2005	49	84	16.57	1009.21	

Aug 13 2005	55	72	13.50	1022.71	
Aug 14 2005	56	74	15.00	1037.71	
Aug 15 2005	56	71	13.50	1051.21	
Aug 16 2005	54	80	17.00	1068.21	
Aug 17 2005	53	83	18.00	1086.21	2B + 7 days spray
Aug 18 2005	55	76	15.50	1101.71	
Aug 19 2005	57	80	18.50	1120.21	
Aug 20 2005	54	85	19.50	1139.71	
Aug 21 2005	51	88	19.50	1159.21	
Aug 22 2005	50	90	19.81	1179.02	
Aug 23 2005	51	88	19.50	1198.52	
Aug 24 2005	51	80	15.50	1214.02	
Aug 25 2005	55	88	21.50	1235.52	
Aug 26 2005	49	95	20.89	1256.41	
Aug 27 2005	54	96	23.49	1279.90	
Aug 28 2005	55	96	23.97	1303.87	
Aug 29 2005	49	88	18.57	1322.43	
Aug 30 2005	50	92	20.47	1342.91	
Aug 31 2005	53	89	20.93	1363.83	
Sep 01 2005	52	82	17.00	1380.83	
Sep 02 2005	55	83	19.00	1399.83	
Sep 03 2005	50	82	16.00	1415.83	
Sep 04 2005	54	81	17.50	1433.33	
Sep 05 2005	45	88	17.23	1450.57	
Sep 06 2005	48	83	15.70	1466.27	
Sep 07 2005	48	77	12.72	1479.00	
Sep 08 2005	55	73	14.00	1493.00	
Sep 09 2005	59	72	15.50	1508.50	

Sep 10 2005	55		77	16.00	1524.50	
Sep 11 2005	48		75	11.73	1536.23	
Sep 12 2005	44		76	11.12	1547.35	
Sep 13 2005	47		72	9.95	1557.30	
Sep 14 2005	54		77	15.50	1572.80	
Sep 15 2005	49		78	13.58	1586.38	
Sep 16 2005	54		72	13.00	1599.38	
Sep 17 2005	54		77	15.50	1614.88	
Sep 18 2005	46		83	15.06	1629.94	
Sep 19 2005	49		94	20.62	1650.56	
Sep 20 2005	53		75	14.00	1664.56	