

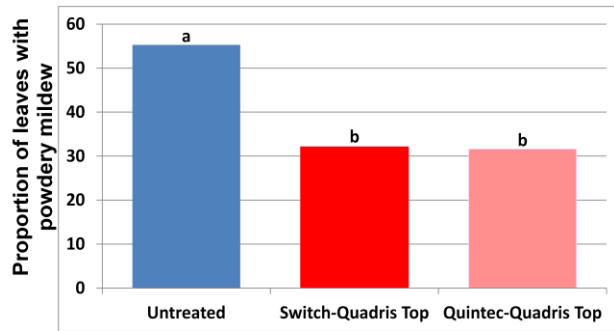
Strawberry Pest Management Update

Surendra Dara

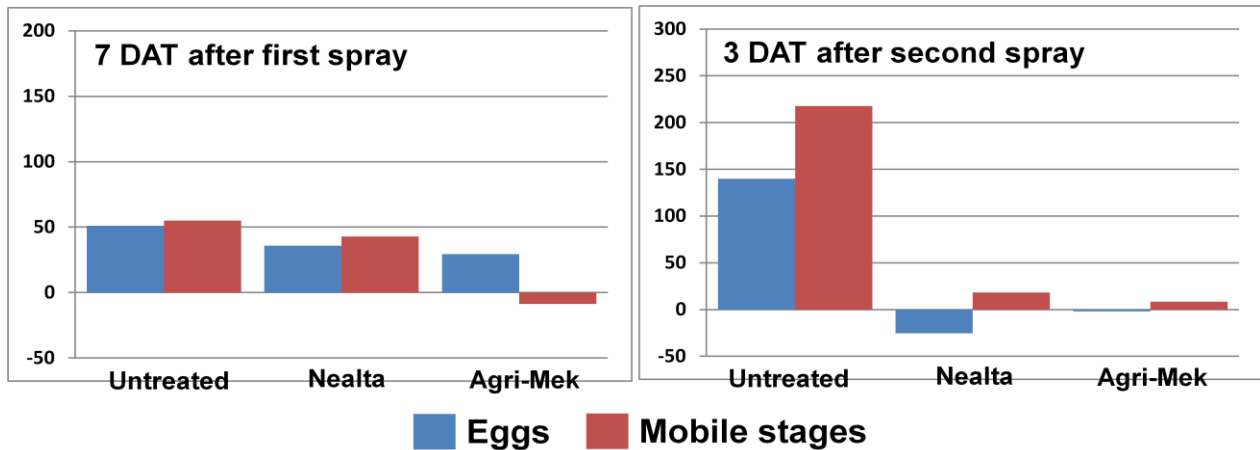
Strawberry and Vegetable Crops Advisor and Affiliated IPM Advisor, UCCE,
San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties

Annual University of California Santa Maria Strawberry Field Day 12 April, 2012

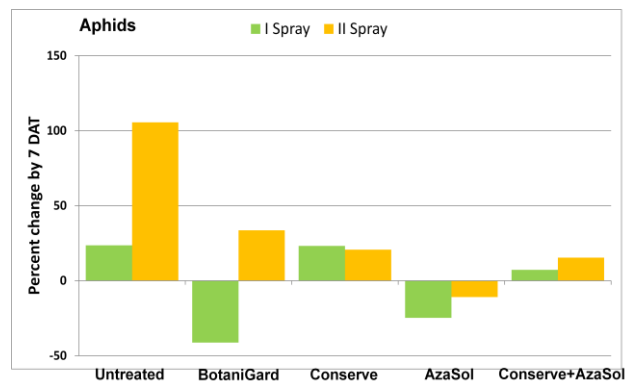
2011 Fungicide trial: Alternating Quadris Top with Switch or Quintec provided significant control of strawberry powdery mildew.

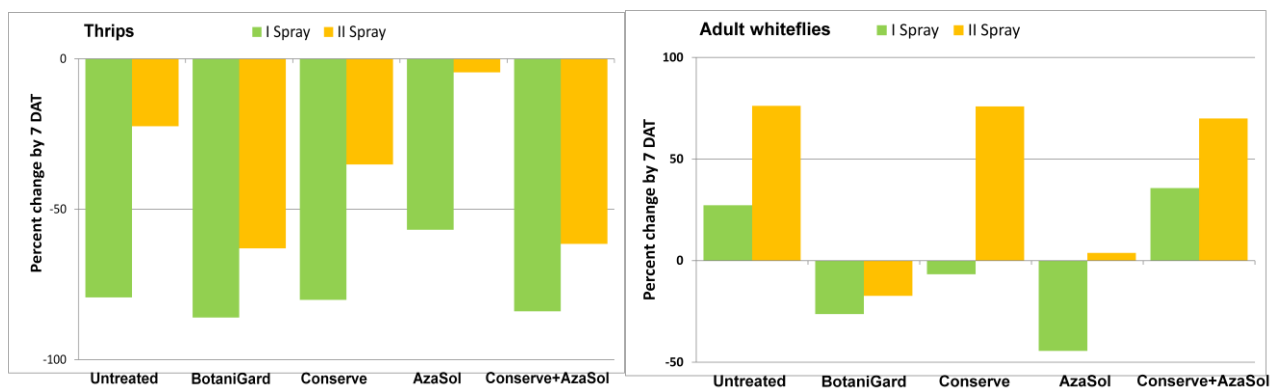


2011 Miticide trial: Performance of a new miticide, Nealta in comparison with Agri-Mek was evaluated. First spray coincided with grower's standard application of Microthiol, which was absent during the second spray. Both Nealta and Agri-Mek provided good control. Graphs show percent change in number of eggs and mobile stages.



2011 Greenhouse pesticide trial: Evaluated insect pathogenic fungus, *Beauveria bassiana* (BotaniGard), spinosad (Conserve), azadirachtin (AzaSol) against aphids, thrips and whiteflies. Graphs show percent reduction in insect populations 7 days after the first and second spray application. All products seemed to provide a fair control of aphids. There was a decline in thrips during the experimental period, but some treatments were effective in causing higher reduction after the second spray. Efficacy of the treatments against adult whiteflies varied, but both BotaniGard





and AzaSol seemed to be effective. Biopesticides appeared to be effective in these preliminary studies. They could be considered as a part of strawberry IPM.

2012 Field trials: Two trials are planned for managing strawberry pests, especially lygus bugs. One trial will compare biopesticides with chemical pesticides. Insect pathogenic fungus, *B. bassiana* (BotaniGard), azadirachtin products (Molt-X and AzaSol), Rimon and other chemicals will be evaluated in various combinations. The second trial will evaluate some new chemicals, flonicamid (Beleaf), chlorothianidin (Belay), sulfoxaflor (Closer), and tolfenpyrad (Bexar) along with other chemicals.

Another field trial is on way evaluating fumigation alternatives. Anaerobic soil disinfectant, mustard meal, fish emulsion and chemical fumigant are compared for their efficacy against diseases and weeds.

New strawberry cost study: UC cost study on strawberries for the Santa Maria valley have been updated last year. This can be downloaded for free from the following link:

http://coststudies.ucdavis.edu/files/Strawberry_SC_SMV2011.pdf

Santa Maria Strawberry Field Day

Mark your calendars for the annual strawberry field day

When: Friday, May 11, 2012

Where: Manzanita Berry Farms, 1891 West Main Street, Santa Maria.

Topics will include irrigation, salinity, nutrient management, and fumigation related issues. Stay tuned for more information.

Continuing Education Credits: 2.0 hours from DPR and 3.5 hours from CCA

Register at: <http://ucanr.org/strawberryfieldday>. If you have questions, call Ingrid Schumann at 805-781-5940.

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Blogs: http://ucanr.org/blogs/strawberries_vegetables and <http://ucanr.org/blogs/pestnews>