Notice

Requests for insect and/or plant disease diagnoses using digital images must be sent to sickplants@okstate.edu

Pecan nut casebearer trapping and reporting in 2016
Phil Mulder, Dept. Head and Extension Entomologist

Increased early activity of pecan nut casebearer (PNC) has been recorded across Oklahoma for 2016. If you have not ordered your PNC pheromone traps you may be too late. As a general rule for southern and central Oklahoma, traps should be in the orchard during the first week of May and for the northern counties during the middle of May. However, this year, PNC have been captured in pheromone traps earlier than normal. The initial date of collection, when moths are captured for two consecutive nights, will act as a benchmark for predicting egg laying (oviposition). As a general rule, begin scouting the orchard for PNC eggs 7 – 10 days after initial catch. Trap catches should not be used to predict the threat of damage by PNC larvae or the need to apply an insecticide. Therefore, scouting pecan nuts for eggs and nut entry will determine if a damaging infestation is present and an insecticide is justified. Nut entry can start 12 – 16 days after initial catch, but only careful and regular scouting for eggs and entries as well as estimating crop potential can be used to justify treatment. Scout pecan clusters now through the first two weeks of June for eggs
PNC eggs and/or damage by examining 10 clusters per tree until you have checked 310 clusters or find two or more infested clusters. If you sample two infested clusters by the time you reach 310 clusters checked then damage may exceed 5% of the potential harvest. If the numbers are lower than this re-examine the orchard in the same fashion 2-3 days later.

Online information on PNC activity can be found at [http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/maps](http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/maps). Area wide activity can be found in the PNC Risk Map and you can make your own forecast for oviposition in the PNC Forecast map link. All that is needed for this individual forecast is the date of your initial catch and marking your orchard site in the map. Below are some companies that sell PNC pheromone traps. Only 3 traps are needed for 50 acres or less and at least 5 traps for 50 or more acres. For a more detailed description on PNC biology, scouting and treatment go to:


**Pecan Nut Casebearer Pheromone and Traps:**

Trece, Inc.  P.O. Box 129P.O. Box 129 Adair, OK 74330 Tel: 918-785-3061  FAX: 918-785-3063  
E-mail: custserv@trece.com  Order Center: 866-785-1313  

Advanced Pheromone Technologies, Inc.  Tel: 971-327-7129
PNC activity is dependent on temperature and if spring temperatures are higher than normal across the state, we can expect to see little difference in activity from south to north. PNC pheromone traps provide real time information on activity for individual orchards. Information on this activity across the pecan belt is posted at the ipmPIPE website, so please follow and even contribute to the progression of PNC at this site. The black and white flags are locations of volunteer producers that are trapping for PNC. When trap captures are received the marker turns green. When the decision window opens, which is the time when a producer can go to the orchard, sample clusters, and make a decision on whether to apply a treatment or not, the marker turns yellow. When the decision window closes, the marker turns red. Based on trapping of PNC adults conducted across the state already, southern counties will soon be making decisions to treat and northern counties will be making that same decision within the next two weeks. In light of the weather outlook, please keep in mind that heavy rains, winds, and other factors may play a significant role in PNC adult survival during this time of year, highlighting the importance of regular scouting of nut clusters.

For producers wishing to make their own predictions, go to maps and PNC forecast at http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/. Click on the warning then place a marker on your orchard site with a right click of the mouse. Next, enter the date of your first significant moth catch (first date of two consecutive collection nights). The program then provides you with a table and a graph of predicted percent completion of oviposition. It is best to start scouting during the time when 25% oviposition is predicted. Producers should remember to examine 310 pecan clusters for the presence of PNC eggs or damage and continue to scout similarly for the critical four-day window (about 12-16 days after first capture of adult moths). At this time, also estimate crop load to determine the need for treatment and to justify the expense.
Products recommended for PNC include softer products (Intrepid, Confirm, B.t.) that are gentler on beneficial organisms and safer for the environment. At the website http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/ there is a searchable insecticide data base (and fungicide data base) in the “Tool Box” link. The site allows growers to search by active ingredient, pest, company, organic certification, or you can look at the entire list of labeled pecan insecticides for any and all pests.

Once again, I want to suggest to growers that some areas of the state have the potential for a bumper crop of pecans, but this potential needs to be protected against pests. So, be diligent in monitoring for and treating significant pest problems.