

Field Observations March 22, 2007
Bentley Lab, Parlier, California

This is the first of a series of updates we will be giving as we go through the growing season.

Oriental fruit moth: Brian Ribeiro is monitoring orchard catches as part of a Department of Pesticide Regulation Grant. The Crimson Lady, Ivory Princess, Summer Bright, Mixed Fruit are not using OFM mating disruption and are not being treated with insecticides. Both bait buckets and pheromone traps are being employed to monitor OFM. The bait buckets and pheromone traps, in non-mating, catch at the same time. In fact, this year, two of the orchards trapped OFM in the bait buckets the week prior to the pheromone traps. This is good news because it will allow us to use bait buckets as a method of establishing a biofix to place pheromone traps. We are also trying to relate the abundance of moths trapped in bait buckets, in the overwintering flight, to the need to apply a supplemental insecticide spray. We have not established a threshold for this as of yet.

Western flower thrips: Numbers were extremely low this year. Although most nectarine farmers will make a treatment for this pest, feeding pressure was not too severe in these orchards.

Omnivorous leafroller: The first OLR were trapped during the first week of March, in stone fruit. None have been trapped in vineyards.

Peach twig borer: Remember to place traps out near the end of March.

General Information:

Kelley Morrow is running a degree-day program available at STICKY NOTES - ipm2go stickynotes@ipm2go.com. This is a good location to assist those of you monitoring various stone fruit pests. This information is also posted on our webpage under Degree-Day.