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Peach Year-Round IPM Program
Mite Sampling Timed Searches

Supplement to UC IPM Pest Management Guidelines: Peach

For Print Use Only

Grower/Orchard_____ **Date**_____

From May through August, monitor for mites at least weekly. If the orchard has problem areas such as trees along roads or water-stressed trees, monitor every few days. Before July 1, focus monitoring on hot spots—i.e., areas that develop mites first; these are often dusty or water stressed areas of the orchard. Once the treatment threshold has been reached in these areas, sample the remainder of the orchard to determine if a spot treatment is sufficient or the entire orchard requires treatment. After July 1, monitor the whole orchard, dividing it into sampling areas that can be treated separately.

How to Monitor:

1. In each orchard up to 40 acres, conduct a 5-minute search in two separate areas of the orchard for a total sampling time of 10 minutes. If you determine the mite population is consistent throughout the orchard, one 5-minute search is adequate.
2. If mite population is spotty, continue to do two 5-minute searches throughout the summer.
3. For each 5-minute search, examine at least 1 to 2 leaves on 10 trees,; use a stopwatch or kitchen timer to time yourself. Select trees in dusty areas or other known hot spots. Sample leaves from both inside and outside the tree.
4. Start monitoring in June or earlier if it was a hot spring. Each week, select another dusty location or hot spot to sample. Once mites have been found, observe the same trees weekly to track populations.
5. Continue to monitor through August. Resume monitoring one week after a treatment application.

		Webspinning Mites						Predators			
Date	Search	None	Low	Low/ Moderate	Moderate	Moderate/ High	High	None	Low	Moderate	High
	1st 5 min										
	2nd 5 min										
	1st 5 min										
	2nd 5 min										
	1st 5 min										
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	1st 5 min										
	2nd 5 min										
	1st 5 min										
	2nd 5 min										

Mite Ratings

low (1-20%) = an occasional mite on occasional leaf; hard to find.
low/moderate (21-39%) = mites easier to find but no colonies or webbing and few eggs.
moderate (40-60%) = some leaves without mites, other leaves with small colonies; eggs easy to find but very little webbing.
moderate/high (61-79%) = mites on most leaves, colonies with eggs, and webbing on some leaves.
high (80-100%) = lots of mites on most leaves; eggs and webbing abundant.

Predator Ratings

low = hard to find; less than one predator per six leaves (only a few leaves will have predators).
moderate = easier to find; one predator per three leaves (about half the leaves will have predators).
high = one or more predators per leaf (most leaves will have predators).

Treatment Decisions

Treat if the rating from at least one 5-minute search indicates:
low/moderate mite rating with **low/moderate** predator rating, or
moderate/high mite rating with **moderate/high** predator rating