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Update on Pest Management
and Crop Development

F R U I T J O U R N A L

April 4, 1994

VOLUME 3

Geneva, NY

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MAY FLIES?

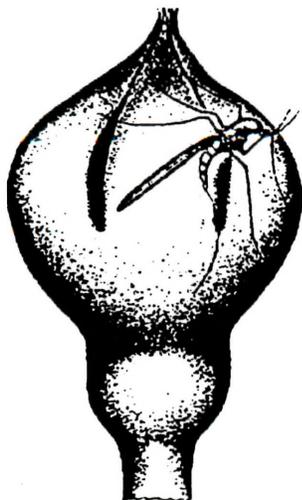
PEAR MIDGE
(Art Agnello)



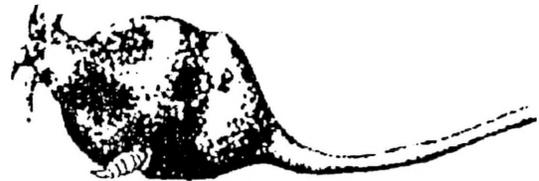
❖❖ The pear midge is an old pest not commonly seen in blocks under a "standard" spray schedule. This insect is usually controlled by chemical applications for other pests, and in most cases of fruit infestation (whether commercial or homeowner), the problem comes down to the proper timing of



an insecticide spray. The pear midge overwinters as a pupa in the soil, and the adults emerge in the lake plains area of NY in early May. The first flies will generally appear when Bartlett and Clapps are in the tight cluster bud stage, but no successful egg-laying occurs until the flower buds are a little more developed. The critical period for chemical control begins when the sepals have spread apart enough to show the first appearance of pink (the folded petals underneath), and continues until just before most of the blossoms are



open. The flies disappear by the time of Bartlett full bloom. Larvae may be present inside the fruitlets on the tree, and do not affect fruitlet color. Full-grown larvae may leave the fruit or remain inside until it drops to the ground. In June and July, the maggots exit from the fruit (on the tree or the ground) and burrow into the soil as much as 3 inches to pupate later.



We know of no practice, either chemical or cultural (for instance, rototilling), that is effective enough to recommend for controlling the insects in the ground. These insects emerge in very large numbers, especially in a block continuously infested from year to year, and it is much easier to protect the fruit than to eliminate the pests at their source. If you wish to limit the area requiring chemical sprays, concentrate on those portions of the orchard most protected from the wind by trees, high ground, or buildings, as the midges tend to be most numerous in these spots. The most effective materials to use for midge sprays are organophosphates like azinphos-methyl; at least 2 sprays are recommended, one at first separation of the sepals, and one 7 days later (or at white bud, whichever comes first). ❖❖

ON SECOND THOUGHT

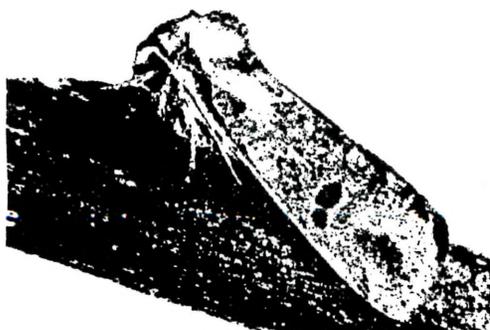
**CORRECTION TO THE
1994 RECOMMENDS –
EFFECT OF LORSBAN ON
PREDATOR MITES**
(Art Agnello)

❖❖ Moving right into the season with a correction to the 1994 Recommends, we have been apprised of an oversight in failing to amend Table 12, Activity Spectrum of Apple Insecticides. Specifically, we refer to the entry for Lorsban and its effects on beneficials. You may recall that this has been a matter of some discussion in the past, and just last year Jan Nyrop conducted some field trial follow-ups to our original lab data. In the June 21,

1993 issue of Scaffolds, Jan concluded that, although a spray of Lorsban did decrease predator mite numbers (particularly *T. pyri*), it was seen to be less destructive overall than materials like Lannate or the pyrethroids (“Lorsban can be used to manage obliquebanded leafrollers without decimating mite predator populations. While the Lorsban applications will probably reduce predator numbers and may disrupt biological control of European red mite, predator numbers should recover quickly.”) Accordingly, the relative toxicity of Lorsban to *T. pyri* should be changed from “High” to “Moderate”, the same as for *A. fallacis*. Even though *T. pyri* is more susceptible to Lorsban, its higher overwintering survival rate puts it into the same “hardiness” class as *A. fallacis*. ❖❖

PEST FOCUS

Geneva: **Pear psylla** adults active, laying eggs
Wayne County: **Pear psylla** adults active
Hudson Valley: **Pear psylla** adults active, laying eggs; **Green fruitworm (GFW)** adults flying



Green fruitworm adult

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This newsletter available on CENET, on the Tree Fruit News bulletin board under FRUIT.

INSECT TRAP CATCHES (Number/Trap/Day)

Geneva NY

HVL, Highland NY

	<u>3/31</u>	<u>4/4</u>		<u>3/28</u>	<u>4/1</u>	<u>4/4</u>
Green fruitworm	0	0	Green fruitworm	0	0.1*	0.5
Pear psylla adults	0	0.03*	Pear psylla adults	0	0	0.2*
Pear psylla eggs (per terminal bud)	0	0.1*	Pear psylla eggs (per terminal bud)	0	0	0.01*
Redbanded Leafroller	-	0	Redbanded Leafroller	-	0	0
Spotted Tentiform Leafminer	-	0	Spotted Tentiform Leafminer	-	0	0

* 1st catch

(Dick Straub, Peter Jentsch)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Current DD accumulations	<u>43°E</u>	<u>50°E</u>
(Geneva 1/1 - 4/4):	49	18
(Highland 1/1 - 4/4):	89	38

Coming Events:

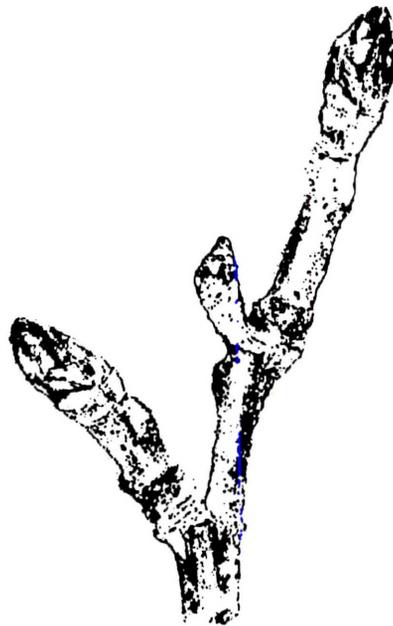
McIntosh at silver tip	64-69
Green fruitworm 1st adult catch	41-143
Pear psylla adults active	2-121
Pear psylla 1st oviposition	25-147
Redbanded leafroller 1st adult catch	32-480

Ranges:

17-24
9-69
0-42
1-72
5-251

PHENOLOGIES

Geneva: Apple, Pear, cherry, Peach, plum: **All dormant**
(Ida Red pushing silver tip in Wayne County on 4/1)



NOTE: Every effort has been made to provide correct, complete and up-to-date pesticide recommendations. Nevertheless, changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly, and human errors are possible. These recommendations are not a substitute for pesticide labelling. Please read the label before applying any pesticide.

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