

Chemical Control/New Products

Cherry Fruit Fly Control with GF-120 NF Bait

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*Abstract:* The GF-120 NF bait (a.i. spinosad) was tested under pest pressure conditions far in excess of what is normal in commercial orchards. As in 2003 research, it proved to be highly effective and did not damage the fruit or foliage. Bait application proved to be an effective, practical option for organic and conventional growers and appears to be a viable “backyard” tree CFF treatment. One larva was found in a sample taken from a treated, highly infested tree of excessive height. This situation was similar to the single larva “failure” in the 2003 trial, indicating that the bait will not provide 100% control the first year of treatment on trees with extreme infestation levels. Complete control was attained on all 10 retreated 2003 test trees and on 20 of 21 sites included in the 2004 rate trials. No larvae were found in any of the trees treated with reduced rates, despite the capture of adults on traps over the four weeks leading up to harvest. Further work is required to find the product rate and pest infestation level at which control is not reasonably dependable.