

Thresholds/Monitoring

Progress in Developing More IPM Compatible Techniques for Controlling Oriental Fruit Moths
Infesting Apple Orchards in Western New York

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Abstract: Studies were conducted in 2004 to evaluate multi-tactic management programs integrating mating disruption and improved timing of IPM-compatible insecticides in large-scale plots in grower orchards. Three different OFM control programs were tested in 10 grower orchards in western New York: Seasonal mating disruption, optimum chemical control, and a monitoring program based on fruit sampling and pheromone trap catches. All three programs provided excellent control of fruit damage except in one “high risk” orchard. No late season damage was observed in any of the test plots from OFM during the 2004 growing season. OFM development was later than normal in NY apple orchards during the 2004 growing season, and the Pennsylvania DD model did not predict OFM activity accurately. Mating disruption may eliminate a need for special chemical control sprays against OFM except in very “high risk” orchards. Pheromone monitoring traps can be useful in determining the need and timing for control sprays but additional work is needed to test this concept. Monitoring fruit on trees during the season can accurately detect low levels of damage in time to apply appropriate control sprays, but the technique may be too laborious for consultants or growers to use.