Implementation

Implementation of Non-Organophosphate Pest Management Programs on Pears in Northern Oregon

Allison Walston, Jane Snelling and Helmut Riedl
Oregon State University, Mid-Columbia Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Hood River, OR

Keywords: codling moth, pear, organophosphate alternatives, mating disruption, natural enemies, Areawide II

Abstract: Areawide II is a collaborative project to evaluate selective alternatives to organophosphate (OP) insecticides for control of codling moth and to enhance biological control in pear orchards. The study was initiated in 2001 and was limited initially to three commercial orchards in the Hood River Valley. In 2004 and 2005, the demonstration project was expanded to ten commercial pear orchards. Growers had to agree to use organophosphate alternatives for controlling codling moth and other pests. In return, growers were provided with weekly information and advice about the status of major and minor pests, natural enemy activity, timing of sprays and whether pest levels justified control. Growers made their own decisions about what insecticide to apply. Pheromone traps were placed in all orchards to monitor codling moth and obliquebanded leafroller. Pear psylla, mites and natural enemies were monitored weekly by either beating tray or leaf samples. Monitoring information about pest and natural enemy populations was summarized weekly in a report for each grower and distributed electronically. The weekly reports were intended as supplemental information for growers and chemical fieldmen so they could make informed pest management decisions and respond to emerging problems in a timely manner.