Chemical Control/New Products

Chemical Control of Eyespotted Budmoth in Organic Apple Orchards

W. W. Coates
University of California Cooperative Extension, Hollister, CA

Keywords: eyespotted budmoth, Spilonota ocellana, pandemis leafroller, Pandemis pyrusana, brown garden snail, Helix aspera, Javelin, Bacillus thuringiensis, Entrust, spinosad, apple, chemical control, insecticide, organic

Abstract: Eyespotted budmoth (ESBM) has become a significant leaf-rolling insect pest of organic apples in California’s Central Coast. Little is known about ESBM under California conditions. The overwintering generation begins with egg hatch in the fall (not observed), larval damage to buds and shoots in the late winter and spring and adults in May/June. The second generation hatches in late June/July, feeds on leaves and fruit in July/August and is present as adults from August to November. Damage is surface feeding under leaves tied to the fruit. Entrust at 2 oz/acre was applied to Honeycrisp apples 4/1 before bloom, 6/7, 7/6 and 7/14. An additional treatment of Entrust was applied without oil on 4/1 and with oil (1%) on 6/7, 7/6 and 7/14. Javelin at 2 lb/acre was applied 4/1, 4/12 (early bloom), 6/7, 7/6 and 7/14. Damage at harvest was 1.9% ESBM for both Entrust treatments, 3.5% for Javelin and 20.4% for untreated. Very few pandemis or other leafrollers were found. Snails were noted as a significant fruit-feeding problem.