

Implementation

BREWSTER DUAL AREAWIDE MANAGEMENT PROJECT—THIRD YEAR

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The Brewster Dual Areawide Management Project (BDAM) is a group of 12 growers with approximately 500 acres of apples under mating disruption for OBLR. The project was started in 1998 with growers applying OBLR and CM pheromone dispensers at half rate. The project was first a demonstration of mating disruption, being part of the CAMP site Brewster Areawide Management (BAM). However, the use of OBLR mating disruption technology is still under development, so the project was also an opportunity for discovery. BDAM represented one of the largest contiguous acreages of OBLR mating disruption tried. As with CM MD, one would expect OBLR MD to work better when used in a large area with a relatively small outer edge.

As part of the management project, pheromone traps were checked regularly and the information given to both growers and fieldmen. Bins were checked during harvest, at least one per acre, for insect damaged fruit. Spray records were gathered, and data were analyzed along with the data for 75 blocks under CM MD in the BAM project used as a comparison. If the OBLR MD is effective, BDAM blocks should have less damage or the growers should have used fewer insecticide sprays to achieve the same result.

In past years, fruit injury in BDAM was lower than in the control blocks. In 2000, the fruit injury was similar under both treatments. However, as in other years, insecticide use was lower in BDAM than in comparison blocks. The spray records were difficult to compare. BDAM growers used mostly Success while BAM growers used mostly *Bt*.

The 3-year average reveals that BDAM growers used fewer insecticide sprays than comparison growers. Specifically, BDAM growers used half the number of *Bt* sprays. Also, over a period of three years, fruit injury was reduced from a pre-treatment level of 1.8% to 0.6% on average in BDAM. In comparison blocks, fruit injury has changed little, from 1.4% in the pre-treatment year to 1.25% on average during the years of the project.