Chemical Control/New Products

Controlling Codling Moth with Water

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Studies were conducted to examine two aspects of using overhead watering to control codling moth. A season-long program using particle films for the first generation followed by overhead watering with a fog system was evaluated in replicated 0.7 acre plots treated with Isomate C+. Second, the use of microsprinklers run for 4, 8, and 12 h per day for the second generation was examined in both Golden Delicious and Fuji plots. Fruit injury from codling moth at harvest averaged 1.1% in the particle film/water treatment versus 6.8% in the untreated check. Injury in the plots treated with a half season of the particle film alone averaged 2.1% and injury in plots treated only with water during the second generation averaged 3.6%. Fruit injury in plots treated with overhead sprinklers was lowest in the 4 hour timing (6-10PM daily) when averaged across both cultivars (4.9%) compared with 35% injury in the untreated check. Deposits of minerals occurred in all water-treated plots even though a sulfur burner was installed. Unfortunately, the sulfur burner was not turned on until 2 weeks after the study began. Studies for next year will evaluate the use of 2-hour applications and the use of cycling.