Implementation

Areawide II and Best Management Practices for Orchard Spraying: Projects Aim to Reduce Grower Reliance on OP Insecticides and Protect Water Quality

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Abstract: Implementation of the Areawide II Project in Oregon has focused on pear production in the Hood River and Medford growing districts. Information generated from the research components of the project has been disseminated using traditional Extension methods including newsletters, newspapers, trade magazines, field days and workshops. Additionally, the Oregon Fruit Crop Pest Alert System, an Internet-based system for delivering near real time notification of critical events in pest development, has been developed. Technical support materials developed include a Spanish language guide for pest monitoring programs in pears. In both districts, unmanaged trees have been the target of outreach programs to the general public to reduce potential threats to commercial orchards. As new information is generated from the research components of the Areawide II project, it will be integrated into these ongoing Extension programs. Projects that complement the goals of the Areawide II Project have been carried out in both districts. In Hood River, the Hood River Grower-Shipper Association Best Management Practices (BMP) Project supports grower adoption of orchard pest management practices that protect water quality. Information on BMPs for pesticide use and alternatives to organophosphate insecticides has been integrated into a grower handbook and website and disseminated through an intensive outreach program.