



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension  
TEXAS PECAN PEST  
MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER



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This will be the last newsletter for 2014 but I will resume in March 2015. For anyone that changes an email address please let me know so we can update our distribution list. Here's wishing everyone a successful harvest season.....

**GENERAL**

Harvest is underway and we are all hoping for good harvest weather. The Texas crop is estimated at 64 million pounds with GA coming in at 73.5 and New Mexico at 55 million. See predictions for all states on page two of the accompanying Pecan Market News Letter form.

**PECAN MARKET NEWSLETTER**

The pecan market newsletter is published by the Texas Pecan Growers Association and is a great way for you to keep up with harvest activities across the U.S. and what is going on with market prices. There are approximately 16 issues per year and the first letter has already been published. You can subscribe to the letter by email for \$85, or regular snail mail at \$95. With this letter I am attaching the subscription form. Note, on page two of the attachment are the 2014 crop estimates.

**INSECTS**

At this time the only production insect problem facing producers could be a late emergence of pecan weevil and late infestation of stink bugs. Make sure you run PW emergence traps up though shuck split of your latest maturing variety.

As for foliage pests, to treat or not to treat for aphids and mites can be a tough call. I have arbitrarily set October 1 as the cutoff date for aphid/mite treatments.

**Walnut Caterpillar:** I'm still receiving reports of late season (third generation) walnut caterpillar activity. I would still control WC infestations up and into October. If treatments are needed at this time of year the pre-harvest interval for the product will need to be considered.

**STORED PRODUCT PESTS**

Although there are few production insects that still need to be watched there is another group of pests that retailers need to be monitor and these are the stored product insects. Insects such as Indian meal moth, saw-toothed grain beetle and cigarette beetle can cause problems in stored pecan kernels. There are not any stored product pests that can directly penetrate the shell. However, it does not take much of a crack in the shell to allow entry to the kernel by these insects.

The first and most important step in managing/controlling stored product pests is sanitation. Even the smallest amount of debris under tables and/or in equipment can support populations.

Fortunately there are pheromones and traps that are easy to use that can be utilized as a warning system. Two companies that I am aware of (I'm sure there are more) that carry stored product insect pheromones and traps are; Trece, <http://www.trece.com/> and Russell IPM [www.russellipm.com](http://www.russellipm.com).

Indian meal moth traps and lures look just like PNC traps and lures except the pheromone is specific for IMM.

For the beetle group there are small dome traps which can be placed under tables, in work areas, under equipment that can be fitted with multiple pheromones for various beetles. One trap can hold two or three different pheromones.



**Figure 1** Indian meal moth

These traps are a great way to pick up on potential problems.

**STATE MEETINGS / EDUCATIONAL  
EVENTS 2015**  
January 26-30, 2015

Texas Pecan Short Course  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, TX

**February 27-28, 2015**  
SEPGA Convention  
Grand Hotel Marriott Resort  
Point Center, AL  
Contact: Vicki Jenkins,  
vickijenkins.sepga@live.com

**March 1-3, 2015**  
Western Pecan Growers Conference  
Las Cruces, NM

**March 24-26, 2015**  
Georgia Pecan Growers Conference  
Perry, GA  
Contact: Janice Dees. [Janice@georgiapecan.org](mailto:Janice@georgiapecan.org)

**July 12-15, 2015**  
Texas Pecan Growers Annual Conference  
Embassy Suites  
Frisco, TX  
Contact: TPGA @ 979-846-3285

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