Pecan Crop protection

This document includes information regarding

Pest management

- Most common pest
- Benificial insets

Disease management

Most common pests

Yellow Pecan aphid

- Very common over large production areas
- A lot of natural predators
- Chemical and biological products available for control
- More common from mid December to May
- Ants harvest the honeydew produced by aphids
- Ants prevent the natural enemies of aphids to feed on them

Brown Citrus Scale

Australian Bug (Wit wolluis)

Stink bug complex

- This complex includes different species of stink bug
- Opportunistic group of insects
- Can cause damage to the pecan kernel
- Scouting should be done before insecticides are applied

Bark borer

- Photos show the Wild fig tree Borer
- It has a three year life cycle
- Chemical control is very difficult
- Damage to the trees takes log to be repaired
- Scouting of trees are necessary for early control

Problems on newly planted trees

Chafer beetles

- Nocturnal beetle
- Scouting is essential
- Spraying should be done on a case to case basis

Minor pests

White Grubs

- These larva feed on the roots of plants
- Problem only on newly planted trees
- Preventative treatment can be done just before planting

Termites

- Feed on the roots and trunks of trees
- Can occur on any age trees
- Can cause trees to die
- Needs to be treated on a case to case basis

Beneficial insects

Spiders

Praying Mantis

Lady Bugs

Lacewings

Fungal diseases

Pecan scab

- Pecan scab can occur on the nuts, leaves and stems
- It is limited to areas with high humidity
- Early season infection of the nuts can cause severe crop loss
- Cultivar selection is very important
- Fungicide spray programs need to start early in the season
- Secondary fungal infections also occur
- Air movement through the orchard is important

Antracnose

- Anthracnose can affect the nuts, leaves and stems of pecans
- Plant stress increases the change of trees experiencing Anthracnose
- Severely affected parts of the tree should be removed and destroyed
- Relieving stress factors such as nutrient deficiencies is important
- Fungicides can also be used as part of a control strategy

Sooty mold

It is caused by a fungus growing on the honey dew produced by aphids

Crop Protection

- Make use of AFCASA registered chemical advisors
- Only use registered chemical products, for insects and fungi
- Make sure your spraying equipment can apply the products where needed
- Insects and fungi are opportunistic and scouting orchards for potential problems are necessary
- For a list of registered chemical products go to: http://sappa.za.org/crop-protection/
- In any spay program active ingredients should be alternated, helps with resistance buildup