Harvest Management

Concentration vs. Dilute Ethephon - San Benito County

G. Carnill and G. C. Martin

Three, 4 and 5 pints of ethephon were applied in 100 and 300 gallons of water to 11-year-old Payne walnuts. Treatments were applied September 24, 1975 at 100% packing tissue brown. First pick was on October 6, second pick three weeks later on October 20.

A significantly greater proportion of the crop was harvested from sprayed trees than from check trees at first pick. At the 5% level 4 and 5 pints per 100 gallons were significantly better than the other sprayed treatments.

Hullability of first pick nuts was significantly better (5% level) for 5 pints per 100 gallons and 3, 4, and 5 pints per 300 gallon treatments. There were no differences in hullability of second pick nuts.

Quality factors are still to be analyzed.

Ethrel® Rates and Harvest Efficiency

W. H. Olson and G. C. Martin

Ethrel® rates of 3, 4, and 5 pints per 100 and 300 gallons per acre were evaluated for their efficacy in a trial on Ashley walnuts. Treatments were applied two days after 100% packing tissue browning and all plots were harvested 9 days after application.

Treatments ranged from 97-99% hullable and were significantly better than the untreated check which was 91% hullable. In percent removal with one shake, all treatments were significantly better than the untreated check which had 79.9% removal with one shake. The best treatment was 4 pints per 100 gallons which had 95.4% removal with one shake. The poorest treatment was 3 pints per 300 gallons which had 91.6% removal with one shake. No adverse effects were observed from using any of these rates of Ethrel®.