Codling Moth

Insect Control With Lorsban®

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An experimental plot was conducted on Payne walnuts using Lorsban® for control of insects, primarily codling moth. This experiment was conducted in cooperation with Dow Chemical Company. Zolone® was used as a comparison. Codling moth control appeared to be good with Lorsban®. However, numbers of codling moth stings found in the check treatment were insignificant and, therefore, the treatment results were inconclusive. Aphid numbers remained low in both Zolone® and Lorsban® treatments. Aphids in check did not reach numbers which would indicate need for control.

Dusky-Veined Aphid

Dusky-Veined Walnut Aphid

W. H. Olson

Trials with the dusky-veined walnut aphid have shown that heavy infestations in the spring before the walnut shell hardens will result in a smaller-sized walnut with no adverse effects to the kernel. Spring infestations with as little as 10% of a tree's leaflets infested with aphids reduced the percentage of large size walnuts by 12%.

High aphid populations during the summer have a direct effect on kernel quality. In controlled experiments where every leaflet was infested from mid-June to mid-August with an average of 0, 25, or 56 aphids per leaflet, it was found that the percent of offgrade and/or shriveled nuts ran from 0, 42, and 71%, respectively.

A new parasite for this aphid from Iran has been released in Butte County. Observations on its establishment will be made next spring.