

OKLAHOMA PECAN GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Volume LIV, No. II

Michael Smith, Editor

April, May June 2013

In This Issue

President's Corner - pg. 1

Industry Working for You - pg. 1-2

Location, Location, Location - pg. 2

Pecan Nut Casebearer Trapping and Reporting 2013 - pg. 3-4

New OPGA Website Information - pg. 4

Pecan Phylloxera Treatment Time - pg. 5

FDA Food Safety Modernization Act - pg. 5-8

Classifieds - pg. 8-9

Membership Renewal Insert - pg. 9



Oklahoma Pecan Growers' Association is published 4 times per year and is a benefit or being an association member. Contact the Oklahoma Pecan Growers' Association c/o Horticulture & Landscape Architecture, Oklahoma State University, 358 Agriculture Hall Stillwater, OK 74078-6027 for further information.

President's Corner

Randy Bryant

Well, by now your harvest is done and you have got your pecans marketed or at least on a cold spot. Now preparations are under way for next year. If you're like me, you're in your orchard replacing trees lost from the drought or other problems.

The OPGA board recently met and is finalizing plans for our conference in Ardmore June 27 – 29th. There are several topics relevant for now including anatomy of a market crash, the Food Safety Modernization Act, and pathogen contamination on native pecans. Don't forget to mark your calendar and I hope to see you there.

Industry Working for You

Charles Rohla

Many producers may not be aware, but over the last two years there have been a lot of new activities involving the promotion of pecans. State pecan associations and other pecan organizations have joined forces to promote U.S. grown pecans in international markets. The National Pecan Growers' Council is the governing entity leading this effort, known as U.S. Pecans. In 2011, the National Pecan Growers' Council received Market Access Program (MAP) funding, as well as Emerging Markets Program (EMP) funding from the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). With these funds U.S. Pecans participated in promotional activities in Canada, Dubai UAE, India, China, Germany and France. In addition to the funds received from FAS, grower groups including OPGA contributed matching funds that were used for operational expenses.

Mike Spradling, Oklahoma pecan producer and Oklahoma Farm Bureau President, and myself have been involved in these international promotion trips. I went on the first mission trip to Toronto, Canada during January 2011. We met with the major Canadian nut buyers to discuss the potential of increasing exports into Canada and educated buyers on pecans and pecan production. In May 2011, Mike went to Shanghai to SIAL China. SIAL China is one of the largest fairs for Asian food in China. U.S. Pecans were among the 1,750 exhibitors from 68 countries and regions that attracted over 40,000 professional visitors. I know that Mike stayed busy during this event visiting and educating potential buy-

ers and users of pecans. In 2012, these mission trips continued and have had significant impact. Through increased exportation producers will see increased prices due to the increased demand. We hope to continue these international efforts to increase the demand of pecans worldwide. If any producer has any questions regarding these efforts please contact me (ctrohla@noble.org or 580-224-6451).

Location, Location, Location

Walt Thurn, Claremore, OK

Location is typically the most significant factor for a successful retail business; however, location is also extremely important for a successful pecan growing operation.

In the January issue of 'Pecan South' there was an article stating that the Texas A&M orchard was thinned in the previous July in the hopes of saving 40 lbs of nuts per 28-year old tree. It was further stated that irrigation was used because the orchard was still feeling the effects of a 24-month drought.

Of course that drought was felt not only in Texas but also in the majority of counties in Oklahoma. Records revealed that July 2011 in Oklahoma was the hottest month for any state for any month in history. Our orchard is located in Rogers County in North East Oklahoma and we received just 1/2 inch of rain during that extremely hot month of July 2011.

Our orchard is located in the lush Verdigris River valley. The majority of our mature trees are 'Maramec' and are located within 1,000 feet of the river. The trees were grafted in 1980 and now have diameters up to 24 inches measured near the original graft line approximately 4 feet above the ground with drip lines up to 75 feet in diameter. If the sprouts were 4 years old when grafted the trees would have been 35 years old in 2011. In both 2011 and 2012 the best trees produced over 200 lbs of high quality nuts each.

Because of the great location of the orchard neither 'thinning' nor irrigation has ever been required. In fact five fungicide applications were required in 2011 and four in 2012 even with the heat and drought. The great challenge is the tremendous difference in care required for the trees within 1000 feet of the river and those beyond 1000 feet. Even the scab

hour model would produce different recommendations for fungicide applications for those trees closest to the river and those beyond 1000 feet. And then there is the challenge of weevil emergence with varied soil conditions.

Previously it was comforting to know that our orchard was within a couple of miles of the nearest Mesonet station. Now, however, we realize that we have two distinctly different orchards within the same 50 acre plot.

In addition nut maturity, which determines when to harvest, varies greatly between the two segments of the orchard depending on the segment's proximity to the river. For sure two harvests are required for such a situation.

The larger part of our orchard is perfect for pecan growing and as a result our variable cost per acre is substantially less than normally expected while revenue per acre is typically more than expected. I do, however, take pecan growing very seriously and do everything I've learned from OSU to complement our ideal location.

The estimate from USDA lists Oklahoma first again in native pecan production for 2012 with estimated 20MM lbs which is 53% more than the next highest which is Texas. However, Oklahoma typically ranks fourth or fifth in production of improved varieties. That means Oklahoma has a wonderful potential to increase the value of overall pecan production.

And Oklahoma has an abundance of what most states desire, i.e. location, location, location.

But remember, a great location is just the starting point. A successful pecan growing program is a 12 month a year venture. Conversely the best management program in the wrong location will most likely never produce the desired results.

In addition to location and a great management program, success still depends on wind for pollination, sunlight, rain, and temperature moderation over which the grower has limited, if any, control.

And then successful pecan growing is just part of the total equation. The grower's job is not complete until the product is harvested and sold and the proceeds deposited in the bank.

Pecan nut casebearer trapping and reporting in 2013

Phil Mulder, Dept. Head and Extension Entomologist

A warm spring in 2012 increased early activity of pecan nut casebearer (PNC) and I anticipate some early activity for 2013. If you have not ordered your PNC pheromone traps it is time to do so. As a general rule for southern and central Oklahoma, traps should be in the orchard during the first week of May and for the northern counties during the middle of May. The key to using the pheromone traps is to have the traps out early in order to detect the onset of a flight. The initial date of collections, when moths are collected for two consecutive nights, will act as a benchmark for predicting egg laying (oviposition). As a general rule oviposition will start 7 – 10 days after initial catch and nut entry starts 12 – 16 days after initial catch.

Online information on PNC activity can be found at <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/maps> . Area wide activity can be found in the PNC Risk Map and you can make your own forecast for oviposition in the PNC Forecast map link. All that is needed for this individual forecast is the date of your initial catch and marking your orchard site in the map. Below are some companies that sell PNC pheromone traps. Only 3 traps are needed for 50 acres or less and at least 5 traps for 50 or more acres.

Pecan Nut Casebearer Pheromone and Traps:

Trece, Inc. P.O. Box 129 P.O. Box 129 Adair, OK 74330 Ph: 918-785-3061 Fax: 918-785-3063 Email: cust-serv@trece.com Order Center: 866-785-1313
<http://www.trece.com/>

Advanced Pheromone Technologies, Inc. Ph: 971-327-7129

Gempler's P.O. Box 44993 Madison, WI 53744-4993 Order by Phone: 1-800-382-8473

Great Lakes IPM Inc. 10220 Church Road Vestaburg, MI 48891-9746 Ph: 989-268-5693 or 989-268-5911
Toll Free: 1-800-235-0285 Fax: 989-268-5693 E-mail: glipm@nethawk.com
<http://www.greatlakesipm.com/>

ISCA Technologies / Moritor Technologies P.O. Box 5266 Riverside, California 92517 Tel: 951-686-5008
Fax: 815-346-1722 email: info@iscatech.com Web: www.iscatech.com

Oliver Pecan Co. Inc. 1402 W. Wallace, San Saba, TX 76877 800-657-9291 E-mail: soliver@centex.net

Pape Pecan House P.O. Box 1281 101 S. Hwy 123 Bypass Seguin, TX 78155 Ph: 830-379-7442

Southern Nut 'n Tree Equipment, Inc. and Pecan Producers, Inc. 324 SH 16 South Goldthwaite, TX 76844 1-800-527-1825 Fax: 325-938-5490 E-mail: sales@pecans.com

With PNC activity being dependent on temperature and if spring temperatures are higher than normal across the state, we can expect to see little difference in activity from south to north. So, do not wait too late to set out pheromone traps. PNC pheromone traps provide real time information on activity for individual orchards. Information on this activity across the pecan belt is posted at the ipmPIPE website, so please follow and even contribute to the progression of PNC at this site. The black and white flags are locations of volun-

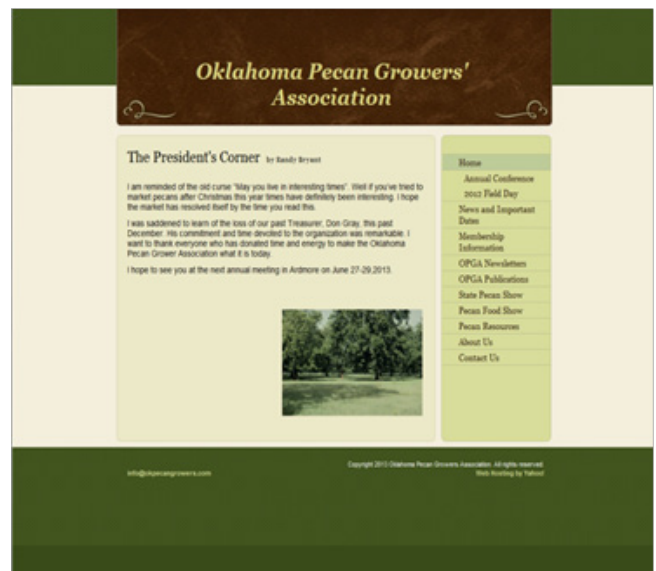
teer producers that are trapping for PNC. When trap captures are received the marker turns green. When the decision window opens, which is the time when a producer can go to the orchard, sample clusters, and make a decision on whether to apply a treatment or not, the marker turns yellow. When the decision window closes, the marker turns red. For producers that are running their own traps you can make a prediction on egg lay for your orchard from your trap catch data at two different websites.

At <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/>, go to maps and PNC forecast. Click on the warning then place a marker on your orchard site with a right click of the mouse. Next, enter the date of your first significant moth catch (first date of two consecutive collection nights). The program then provides you with a table and a graph of predicted percent completion of oviposition. It is best to start scouting during the time when 25% oviposition is predicted. Producers should examine 310 pecan clusters for the presence of PNC eggs or damage and continue to scout similarly for the critical four day window (12-16 days after first capture of adult moths). At this time, also estimate crop load to determine the need for treatment and to justify the expense.

Products recommended for PNC include the softer products (Intrepid, Confirm, B.t.) that are gentler on beneficial organisms and safer for the environment. At the website <http://pecan.ipmpipe.org/> there is a searchable insecticide data base (and fungicide data base) in the "Tool Box" link on the left of the home page. The site allows growers to search by active ingredient, pest, company, organic certification, or you can look at the entire list of labeled pecan insecticides for any and all pests.

Once again, I want to warn pecan growers across the state that 2013, like 2012, could again be the perfect storm for potential insect and perhaps disease problems, so be diligent in monitoring for and treating significant pest problems.

The Oklahoma Pecan Growers' Association has launched a new website. Please stop by the new website and check out the new layout and information. Building on the information provided on the old site, the new site has expanded resource information, including the in-state and out-of-state pecan business listings. It also features more links to other pecan websites and links to the latest scientific publications with more coming soon. Other new features are a contact page that will better help us answer your membership questions, or allow you to update your membership information online. Pecan Food Show cookbooks are available for purchase as well. Expanded sections on the Pecan show and Food show will allow better showcasing of the categories and winners. We have even expanded the coverage of the annual conferences and added a picture gallery of the field days. We hope that the new site will not only provide first time visitors with the information they need about Oklahoma Pecan Growers', but provide our members with easier access to the latest information in the pecan industry. Even though many new features are already active on www.okpecangrowers.com many new items will come out over the year. So, check back often to see these new changes. We invite you to visit our new website now to learn more!



Pecan Phylloxera Treatment Time

Phil Mulder, Dept. Head and Extension Entomologist

Producers that had phylloxera last season should consider treatment time soon. When there is 1 to 2 inches of new leaf growth is the ideal time to treat for this insect pest. Once phylloxera crawlers are imbedded in the new tissue and the galls are observed it is too late. Spot treatments are an option with this insect in that treatments only need to be applied to those trees that had galls in 2012. Insecticides recommended are contact products or any of the IRAC Group 4A products containing the active ingredients: imidacloprid and thiamethoxam.

While several phylloxera species are common on pecan, the primary concern is with pecan stem phylloxera, *Phylloxera devastatrix*. Anywhere pecans grow, you can commonly find pecan phylloxera. There are likely as many as three generations per year with only the first generation causing damage. This insect overwinters as an egg in the dead body of sexual female phylloxera. These dead females are located under the bark of larger limbs, within old galls, or on any areas where protection from the elements is possible. After the egg hatches, the nymphal stage, known as the stem mother, moves to the opening buds and begins feeding. The presence of this insect, causes the plant to respond by “upwalling” tissue around the feeding nymph, and forming a gall, where the now mature stem mother deposits her eggs. The eggs of the stem mother hatch into winged females, referred to as winged migrants. These migrants have a yellowish body, but because of the smokey-black wings they appear darker and may be confused with yellow aphids. This stage is responsible for distribution of the insects throughout an orchard. Eggs deposited by the winged migrants hatch into wingless males and females, which mate and the female eventually dies with an egg inside her body, and the cycle repeats.

The galls or knots formed by these insects on leaf, petiole, and stem tissue can be very unsightly, but can be tolerated in the first year they are observed. In subsequent years, these insects should be treated before the upwalling occurs. In a two year study in Stillwater, Oklahoma in 2000 and 2001, we discover-

ed that emergence began around the first of April (March 30 – April 4) and peaked around mid-April (April 19 – 23). This peak period is generally the ideal time to treat for this pest; however, timing is very dependent on tree phenology (leaf expansion as noted above). Cold weather events (freezes) that occur during that time can also affect phylloxera populations.

Treatment options for phylloxera include the products mentioned previously as well as formulations of chlorpyrifos (Lorsban®), Warrior®, Silencer®, and Movento®. Homeowners can use Malathion® and or Neemix®. The latter material is considered an organic treatment.

FDA Food Safety Modernization Act

People in the United States have recognized for over a century that food safety is a serious issue that affects people’s health. Past legislation has helped ensure production of safe and wholesome foods. The Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) was signed into law January 4, 2011 and is the first legislation to address the issues of food safety in fresh produce in a specific and systematic way. The FDA published its Proposed Rules on Standards for Produce Safety under FSMA January 4, 2013 and is now soliciting comments and feedback on the proposed regulations. Below is an outline of the proposed rules.

Five Proposed Rules Establish Food Safety Framework

- Produce Safety Standards
- Preventive Controls for Human Food
- Foreign Supplier Verification Program
- Preventive Controls for Animal Food
- Accredited Third Party Certification

Standards for Produce Safety - Focus on identified routes of microbial contamination

- Domesticated and wild animals
- Equipment, tools, buildings and sanitation
- Worker health and hygiene
- Agricultural water
- Growing, harvesting, packing and holding activities
- Biological soil amendments of animal origin
- Specific requirements for sprouts

Who Would be Covered?

- Farms that grow, harvest, pack or hold most produce in raw or natural state (raw agricultural commodities)
- Farms and “farm” portions of mixed-type facilities
- Domestic and imported produce
- Farms with annual sales > \$25,000 per year
- Limitations on coverage are proposed

Covered Produce

- “Produce” defined as fruits and vegetables
- Produce includes mushrooms, sprouts, herbs and tree nuts
- Produce does not include grains
- Some limitations on covered produce

Limitations on Coverage

- Produce for personal or on-farm consumption
- Produce not a Raw Agricultural Commodity
- Certain produce rarely consumed raw
- Produce that will receive commercial processing
- Farms with sales of \$25,000 or less per year
- Qualified exemption and modified requirements

Recordkeeping Required But Not Burdensome

- The proposed rule would require certain records, for example, to document that certain standards are being met - Example: agricultural water testing results
- Records already kept for other purposes need not be duplicated

Qualitative Assessment of Risk Reflects Science Behind Rule

- Draft qualitative assessment of risk helps to inform proposed rule
- Provides a scientific evaluation of potential adverse health effects resulting from human exposure to hazards in produce
- Available for public comment as part of the proposed rule

Compliance Dates Staggered

- Effective Date: 60 days after final rule is published
- Not covered: Farms with sales ≤\$25,000/year

Compliance Dates

- Very small farms
 - Average annual value of food sold >\$25,000 and ≤\$250,000
 - Four years after the effective date to comply
 - For some water requirements, six years

Preventive Controls for Human Food

- Hazard Analysis and Risk-Based Preventive Controls
 - Each facility would be required to implement a written food safety plan that focuses on preventing haz
-

ards in foods

- Updated Good Manufacturing Practices

Who is Covered?

- Facilities that manufacture, process, pack or hold human food
- In general, facilities required to register with FDA under sec. 415 of the FD&C Act
- Applies to domestic and imported food
- Some exemptions and modified requirements are being proposed

Preventive Controls Required

- Process controls
- Food allergen controls
- Sanitation controls
- Recall plan
- In addition, seeking comment on supplier approval and verification program

Verification Required

- Validation
- Calibration
- Review of records
- In addition, seeking comment on review of complaints, finished product and environmental testing

Updated Good Manufacturing Practices

- Protection against allergen cross-contact
- Updated language; certain provisions containing recommendations would be deleted
- Comments requested on mandating training and whether rule should require, rather than recommend, certain provisions

Exemptions and Modified Requirements

- Qualified” facilities:
 - Very small businesses (3 definitions being proposed—less than \$250,000, less than \$500,000 and less than \$1 million in total annual sales)

OR

- Food sales averaging less than \$500,000 per year during the last three years AND
- Sales to qualified end users must exceed sales to others

Exemptions and Modified Requirements

- Foods subject to low-acid canned food regulations (microbiological hazards only)
- Foods subject to HACCP (seafood and juice)
- Dietary supplements
- Alcoholic beverages

Exemptions and Modified Requirements

- Facilities, such as warehouses, that only store packaged foods that are not exposed to the environment
 - Certain storage facilities such as grain elevators that store only raw agricultural commodities intended
-

for further distribution or processing

Farm-Related Exemptions

- Activities within the definition of “farm,” including farm activities that are covered by the proposed produce rule
- Certain low-risk manufacturing/processing, packing and holding activities conducted by small/very small businesses on farms for specific foods

Effective and Compliance Dates

Effective date:

- 60 days after the final rule is published

Compliance Dates

- Small Businesses—a business employing fewer than 500 persons would have two years after publication
- Very Small Businesses—a business having less than \$250,000 (or alternatively \$500,000 or \$1 million) in total annual sales of food would have three years after publication to comply.
- Very small businesses are considered “qualified” facilities and subject to modified requirements
- Other Businesses—a business that does not qualify for exemptions would have one year after publication of the final rule to comply.

More Information Available

- Web site: <http://www.fda.gov/fsma>

.....
Classified ads may be placed in the newsletter for free by OPGA members. Send your ad to Mike Smith at mike.smith@okstate.edu and it will appear in the next newsletter and subsequent newsletters until notification to remove the advertisement.

PARTS, REPAIRS and OVERHAULS

On all Nut Hustler and Savage pecan equipment. Pecan and Ag, Bristow, OK. 918-367-5529.

BAMBOO FRAILING POLES

- 12'-14' \$6.50 each
- 16'-18' \$8.25 each
- 20'-22' \$10.00 each

Pecan and Ag, Bristow, OK 918-367-5529

Bag-A-Nut PECAN HARVESTERS FOR SALE

Reap the benefits of owning pecan trees and pick up those pecans without the pain of bending over or getting on your hands and knees. Our pecan harvesters will pick up any variety of pecans, inside of the hull or out. For prices on the Bag-A-Nut Harvesters go to www.BagANut.com or call us at 800-940.2688.”

.....
NEW PECAN BOOK --- by Wes Rice., Pecans - Volume II, A Grower’s Perspective.

Color pictures and descriptions of over 80 cultivars, including Oklahoma releases. Updates on all facets of pecan culture. Over 350 color pictures. Perfect bound - \$32.95+\$2.50 S&H and 8% sales tax or AG exemption. Hard cover - \$46.95 +\$3.00 S&H and 8% sales tax or AG exemption. Wes Rice, 580-765-7049, 333 Braden School Rd., Ponca City, OK 74604.

PECAN TREE SALE

- Wall Family Farm
- Container Grown 7 gal. Tree Can
- Grafted varieties 4-7 ft. \$18.00
- Native Pecan 7ft. \$10.00
- Winston 972-563-3991
- Marilyn 972-236-3991
- wallsfarm@sbcglobal.net
- wallsfamilyfarm.com

FOR SALE: Nut Hustler harvester. \$5500. Air blast sprayer on two wheel trailer. \$1100. Both field ready. Pictures.

Fred Watson---okpecan@cableone.net.

.....

Bird Gard uses a birds' primal fears and natural survival instincts to repel them. Protect from 1.5 acres up to 30 acres. ABSOULUE SATISFACTION GUARANTEE. If you are not completely satisfied with the operation, quality or results of using ANY Bird Gard product, simply return the product to the place of purchase within 1 year for a prompt refund of your purchase price.

Call Jim or Deann Smith 405-273-1235

TAKING ORDERS FOR CIRCLE PECAN WEEVIL TRAPS.

\$17.50 each. Contact Suzen Ihle at 918-367-6168.

ALMOND STREET COLD STORAGE, ABILENE, TX

Will finance your storage and transportation cost until you sell your pecans. For more information, please call Larry Jones at 325-673-4801.



Membership Application

We invite you to become a member of the Oklahoma Pecan Growers' Association. Membership includes the OPGA Newsletter, Pecan South and pecan Grower. Make your checks payable to OPGA and mail to:

Oklahoma Pecan Growers' Association
Amanda Early, Treasurer
2115 N Dobi
Stillwater, OK 74075
amanda.early@okstate.edu 405-744-8800

Name _____

Street Address _____

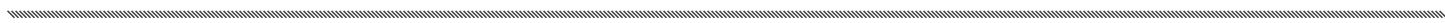
City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Renew

New Member

Grower Member	\$75.00
Industry Member	\$150.00
Extension/Research/Student	\$40.00



Return Service Requested

Oklahoma Pecan Growers' Association
c/o Horticulture & Landscape Architecture
Oklahoma State University
358 Agricultural Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078-6027
