

CONNECTICUT
Agricultural Experiment Station

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Dormant Sprays on Orchard Trees

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The purpose of dormant sprays in the orchard is to control San José Scale, *Aspidiotus perniciosus*, Pear Psylla, *Psylla pyricola*, the European Red Mite, *Paratetranychus pilosus*, and the Peach Leaf Curl, *Exoascus deformans*. The application should be made between now and April 20th. Pear psylla occurs only on pear, peach leaf curl only on peach, but the European red mite and the San José scale may occur on any kind of fruit trees, though the mite seems to cause its greatest injury in America on apple trees.

San José Scale: Lives through the winter in a partly grown stage on the bark and may be killed by spraying with miscible oil (1-15), liquid lime-sulphur (1-9), or with dry lime-sulphur (1 lb. in 10 gallons water). Miscible oil has greater penetration and is preferable on old and badly infested trees. Lime-sulphur is a better fungicide, is fairly effective against scale, and is satisfactory on young trees with smooth bark.

Pear Psylla: Winters as adults on twigs. May be killed by spraying with miscible oil (1-15), nicotine solution (1-800), and the eggs may be killed later with lime-sulphur.

European Red Mite: Winters in the form of red eggs on the bark. Best remedy is to spray with miscible oil (1-15).

Peach Leaf Curl: Is carried over in an inconspicuous way on the young twigs. The dormant spray with lime-sulphur for San José scale also controls this fungous disease.

Apple Scab: Although the scab is carried over in a limited way on the twigs of certain very susceptible varieties, apparently little is gained in control by the dormant spray. To a greater extent is the fungus carried over on the old dead apple leaves in the sod orchard and in fence corners. When feasible, if the orchard is subject to scab, it is well to burn over such land, taking care that the fire does not injure the base of the trees.

Delayed Dormant Spray.

Some orchardists give what is called a delayed dormant spray at the time the leaf buds begin to unfold. On apple it will kill some aphids just hatched, and on pear some eggs and newly hatched psyllids. This is too late to control peach leaf curl, but may give additional protection if the dormant treatment has been applied.

Insects and fungi or other specimens may be sent to the Station for identification.