

APPLES

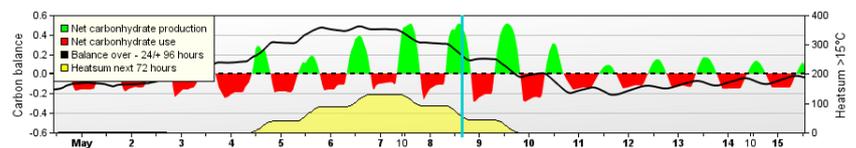
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- A dry week after a huge scab infection period from the 30th April to 2nd May. If you feel you did not have good fungicide cover during the scab period, then discuss tactics with your agronomist. Scab is now being found in orchards with inadequate fungicide cover (Bramley leaf shown, right).
- Winter Moth and tortrix caterpillars can still be found active in some crops. In addition, Apple Ermine Moth caterpillars are now emerging from their leaf mines (pictured right) and will soon be webbing up in shoot tips and fruitlet clusters, so the window for applying controls is closing fast. Remember that Runner is now in revocation, with a final sale date of 30th June and final use date is 31st January 2021.
- Most of the dessert crops have had a petal fall insecticide but, in some instances, **Rosy Apple Aphid** is still being found alive so an application of **Mainman** should be considered. Cider apples are coming to petal fall so an application of **Gazelle SG** or **Calypto** (bear in mind the latter has caused leaf scorch in some cider varieties – consult your agronomist) will give you aphid and sawfly control.
- **Mussel Scale** egg hatch has started and will be getting to full emergence in 7-10 days, depending on site. **Woolly Aphid** is also starting to migrate from over-wintering colonies into fruitlet clusters or onto extension growth (pictured, right). An application of **Batavia** will give control of both pests. For Woolly Aphid you need to use the higher rate authorised by **EAMU**.
- **Codling Moth** traps should be out and we are already seeing catches of more than 5 moths per week. When two catches of 5 or more moths have been made, this would normally trigger an application of an insecticide. This week will see very little Codling flight as they like warm evenings. If you are using RAK 3+4 mating disruption, you must deploy it immediately, if you haven't already.
- With Gala fruitlets at 6-8 mm and early flowering varieties at 10-12 mm or more in some instances, you need to be discussing chemical thinning strategy with your agronomist. Unfortunately, the weather forecast does not suggest suitable conditions for good efficacy from any of the chemical options. Remember, if you wish to use Fixor (NAA), it should be applied before fruitlets get past 10 mm or you may have pygmy fruits on the trees.



PEARS

- Whilst last week looked the optimum week for applying Brevis to thin pears, the weather contrived to lower the efficacy if applied. We wait to see also what the dramatic change in temperatures early this week will have on keeping fruitlets on the trees. RIMpro has a model to assist thinning and the graph above shows that last week a lot of carbohydrate production (green peaks) but low night temperatures reduced respiration also reducing energy consumption (red troughs). High carbohydrate reserves make chemical thinning harder as the thinning products reduce carbohydrate supply to the developing fruitlets. This week we expect cold dull conditions and therefore low carbohydrate production. The balance (black line) goes negative. This would suggest potentially good thinning conditions, however both 6-BA (Exilis/Maxcel) and Brevis need minimum temperatures to be effective, so we need to wait until it warms up. Keep in close contact with your agronomist.



PLUMS

- Plum Fruit Moth traps should be out. The threshold in the **Plum Best Practice Guide** is 30 moths caught in one week. You can identify the contaminant species by clicking [here](#).
- We are seeing some **freckle** (also called scab) in outdoor apricots (pictured, right). It is too late to control the disease now (it takes about 45 days after infection for symptoms to appear). Next season use Switch and Signum as they are the only approved products which have some protectant action against this disease.



CHERRIES

- We continue to find some Black Cherry Aphid, caterpillars and capsid damage in crops.

Further information please contact Jonathan Blackman: 07774 738213. jonathan.blackman@hlh ltd.co.uk
H.L.Hutchinson Ltd., Weasenham Lane, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 2RN.