

Santiam Spray Service, Inc.

Winter Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Spotted Wing Drosophila
- Christmas Help
- Blast From The Past
- Contaminated Plant Matter

Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD)

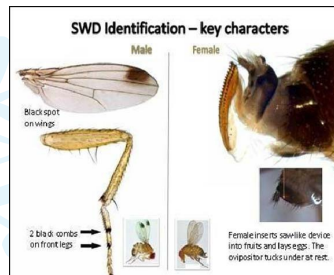
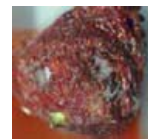
The spotted wing drosophila, *suzukii* fly, is a new invasive pest that was found in Oregon, California, & Washington in 2008 & 2009. SWD may infest a variety of fruits that are grown in Oregon back Yards. Infested fruit are ruined to the damage caused by fly maggots as they consume the fruit and accelerate the rate of rotting. This fly also has the capacity to inflict great economic losses to Oregon's vibrant small and stone fruit industries if not controlled or managed. The fact that SWD favors intact, ripening fruit that is still on the plant as opposed to favoring over-ripe and fallen fruit on the ground as in other drosophilid vinegar flies, makes *D. suzukii* a particularly a nasty problem.

Adult SWD flies resemble the common small fruit or vinegar flies, frequently seen

in your kitchen or on fallen fruit, outdoors. At 2-3 mm in length, SWD are slightly larger than the common vinegar fly, but both have red eyes and a yellowish-brown-colored body and striped abdomen. Key characteristics which distinguish SWD from other vinegar flies are the black spot near the tip of each male wing and 2 black combs on each front leg; the saw-like ovipositor that females use to insert their eggs into ripe fruit.

After a female lays 1-3 eggs in a fruit, a tiny scar or spot appears on the fruit. Each egg has 2 fine hairs' that stick out of fruit that are adapted for breathing. You can sometimes see the hairs on the surface of the fruit. The female has the potential to lay several hundred eggs over her lifetime (avg. 20-30 days). The fruit will begin to collapse, bruise, or wrinkle and become soft after 2-3 days; and then will mold in the area where the egg(s) were laid

and the larva is feeding. The larvae will feed inside the fruit for about 5 to 7 days, until they are ready to pupate. The brownish-yellow pupa is a non-feeding stage lasting 4-5 days. They often remain inside of fruit until the fly emerges from the pupae. The adult fly will mate and begin a new generation.



Trapping Adult Flies

A heavy duty plastic 16 or 32 oz. deli-size cup with lid can be used to make a trap for capturing and monitoring adult flies. Here is how to make a trap:

- Drill several (10) 3/16-inch size holes on side of cup, keeping 3 inches of pour space on side for changing bait solution.
- Attach wire or twine to hang trap.
- In cup, add ≈1-1.5 inches of pure apple cider vinegar + a drop of unscented dish soap to reduce surface tension so flies sink in cider.
- Hang trap near fruit level or place on ground in cool shady area.

(Continued on page 2)

Blast from the Past

The Drift, the original Santiam Spray Service newsletter, started in January 1990. It was to be published on a very strict schedule of "occasionally".

The newsletter described some upcoming meetings for employees, a message from Greg, the boss, it discussed up and coming birthdays, and that any and all criticism should be directed to the editor in a plain white envelope labeled "criticism", so that the editor could throw it away without reading it.

As I read the humble beginnings of our newsletter it made me laugh a little because as times change so do laws and regulations and the laws and regulations of the 1990's were a little less strict and not as much was required of an applicator.

Where now more and more laws and regulations are required to help our applicators protect our customers.

The focus of the newsletter has changed over time. Through the

years the newsletter has evolved from an employee focus, to focus on the customer. Today's newsletter is to educate customers and help them know when to have services done and why. There is also some humor and a little about our company in there. As we continue, I hope the newsletter keeps evolving to bring interesting news to employees and customers alike.

I thank you all for this last years renewal of the newsletter and hope that it has brought some good news to you.

There's one good thing about snow, it makes your lawn look as nice as your neighbor's.
~Clyde Moore



Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD)

(continued from page 1)

- Once a week, filter out flies from bait solution. Count male flies. Confirm identification. If trained, count females too.
- Use a magnifying glass or hand lens to identify the male flies with spots near the tip of wing. Females have a prominent ovipositor
- Replace apple cider vinegar once a week.

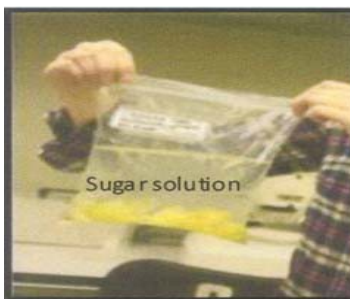


The following methods can be used to check fruit in your backyard for SWD larvae.

- Collect suspicious fruits (potential SWD damage?).

For Sugar-Water Solution (cherries):

- Add 3 Tbsp of brown sugar to 1 cup water.
- Pour solution over lightly crush fruit inside plastic Zip-lock bag.
- SWD larvae should exit fruit and float to top.
- Allow time for fruit to settle at bottom.
- Use good lighting for examination.



For Salt Extraction Solution:

- Dissolve 1 Tbsp of salt in 1 cup warm water.
- Pour solution over fruit in shallow white pan.
- Detection of small larvae may require the use of hand lens and good lighting.



Report Findings at <http://berrygrape.org/> It's a good idea to keep track of your findings. Record location, date collected, fruit they were found in or fly counts from traps, etc.

Backyard management plan

1. Set up monitoring traps early in the season to follow seasonal fly activity before fruit begins to ripen.
2. Check fruit for larvae with the sugar or salt extraction methods described to the left.
3. If possible, cover fruiting plants with fine netting (.98mm) to exclude flies before they lay eggs on fruit.
4. Increase number of traps around borders of yard (mass-trapping) to kill out those flies that survived the winter before your fruit ripens in spring.
5. Pick ripe fruit frequently to avoid infestation by SWD. Ripe and over-ripe fruit appear most susceptible to SWD.
6. If fly numbers are high and other methods are not providing adequate control, use insecticides registered for home use, such as spinosyns, pyrethroids, malathion, and carbaryl. *Follow the label and do not apply when bees are present.*
7. Include sanitation practices (e.g., solarizing with 1-2 ml clear plastic over fruit, clear or black bagging, and/or crushing fruit to kill larvae) in your management plan. Clean up and destroy fallen or overripe fruit left on plant to reduce SWD populations.

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http://swd.hort.oregonstate.edu/files/webfm/editor/WHAT_Backyard_fruit_growers_NEED_TO_KNOW_ABOUT_SWD_5-26-11.pdf

Hallmark Christmas Tree

Many of you may not have heard of the Hallmark Christmas Tree, but here at Santiam Spray it is one of our most favored jobs of the year.

Kansas City, Missouri has a special Christmas tree set up each year in Hallmark's Crown Center to benefit needy individuals in their community. Each year Cascade timer consulting donates a tree, we spray it for preservation with the help of a crane crew, & Ram Trucking hauls it down there for them.

This year's tree will be lit up on November 25th, where 5,000-6,000 people gather to watch in wonder and awe as the tree is brought to life for the holiday season.

When the holidays are over the branches

are chipped and donated to the local parks and the tree trunk is made in to wooden Christmas ornaments, designed by a Hallmark cards designer. The ornaments are later sold and the profits go to the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund to help those in need the next year.

For some more information you can log on to <http://www.ramtrucking.com/HALLMARKTREE/tabid/61/Default.aspx> or log on to <http://www.visitkc.com/things-to-do/attractions/crown-center-tree/index.aspx>.



Combat contaminants in weird weather years

When insects are slow to emerge or their numbers are down is a sign that it has been another weird weather year. The rain or cold has lasted longer than normal.

Plant disease ran rampant from April through August these past couple of years. This leaves a lot of diseased material to take care of in the fall and winter. What should we do with all this debris?

Here are some options to help you get a handle and minimize, if not exterminate, this problem in the future.

- Applications that reduce spores or bacteria populations can be applied in October and **again** in March to the contaminated material.
- Placing the debris in a compost pile that gets around 140 degrees. This temperature will help to kill the bacteria.

- If the compost pile is too cold then you will end up spreading the bacteria and disease.
- Recycle the debris in the yard debris bin. Most areas have this option at no cost or a small fee. Please don't place this debris in the garage can it only leads to an ongoing problem of filling the land fills with yard debris.
- Burning the debris is not recommended, but it is a way to destroy the contaminated plant material.

Now lets not forget the containers that have housed our plants this year also. Proper care for the con-

The first fall of snow is not only an event, it is a magical event. You go to bed in one kind of a world and wake up in another quite different, and if this is not enchantment then where is it to be found? ~J.B. Priestley

tainers that will be used this next spring can be over looked this time of year because they are generally stored away in the garage, shed, or back corner in the yard.

First clear all spent soil & dead debris from the pot. Then thoroughly wash them out with warm, soapy water, that includes 10% bleach. This solution will prevent bugs and contaminants from surviving in there through the winter. Once they are dry they are ready for storage.

Plastic containers can be stored outside, preferably under a tarp for protection. Clay, terracotta, & ceramic containers should be stored indoors away from the temperature fluctuations that may cause them to break.

Hears looking forward to a new growing season full of prosperity and lack of disease.

Newsletter Gift

Gift Certificate

Present this coupon with your bill to receive 10% off any initial spray.



Authorized by Bryan S. Gardner Expires 02/29/12 One coupon per customer, per calendar year. Not redeemable for cash.



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We have been working in the Mid-Willamette Valley for over 40 years. We provide services to help control insects & disease to trees & shrubs, pruning of trees & shrubs, moss control, lawn care, & vegetation control. Our purpose is to help home owners have healthy & thriving plants in their yard that can be enjoyed at their best.

We are constantly looking to expand our knowledge to offer the best services to our customers. Call to get a free estimate today.

Merry Christmas 