

## APPLES

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- Thinning decisions are not going to be easy with variable flowering and set not yet fully apparent. Remember you should not be applying Fixor after 10 mm stage. With an overcast and generally warm week coming, the opportunities for using Exilis or Brevis to thin crops will be good. Work closely with your agronomist, taking into account tree age and vigour, crop load and set, before making decisions.
- Scab is appearing in orchards where fungicide coverage has been inadequate. We have had more than half a dozen very strong scab infection periods this spring, so any holes in your programme are likely to have been exposed.
- Primary Powdery Mildew is active and risk of new infection is high from spores released this coming week. Cosine, Justice and Topas should be used to bolster protection from Flint, Fontelis, Sercadis or Stroby. [Luna Privilege](#) has good anti-sporulant and eradicator activity and should be brought into programmes as well.
- [Rosy Apple Aphid](#) hot spots can still be found and [Rosy Leaf Curling aphid](#) damage is easy to spot now in susceptible varieties (pictured, right).
- [Mussel Scale](#) mass egg hatch should start this week, but we will not reach 90% egg emergence until early next week, which is the best timing for control measures. Batavia applied for Woolly Aphid control will also give control.
- First [Codling Moths](#) have been caught in pheromone traps in most areas (all below threshold), but there will be no mating or egg laying yet.
- Blister Mite is usually associated with pears, but can be found in apples sometimes as well (pictured in a Gilly cider orchard, right). Envidor or Batavia applied in June can give useful control or use sulphur sprays around bud burst next year.
- After rain, a new flush of weeds can be found in orchards. Roundup Biactive GL, Depitox, Dow Shield 400 and Starane Hi Load are your options at this time of year. In orchards less than 3 years old, Quit (diquat) should be used (final sale date 31<sup>st</sup> July, final use date 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020).



## PEARS

- Most crops need thinning as there is an exceptional set. Weather conditions have not been ideal for use of chemical thinners but there is still a window up to 18 mm fruits. If using Brevis, discuss rates with your agronomist who can use the BreviSmart model to aid decision making.
- There are some Pear Sucker hot spots and if there are insufficient anthocorids (natural or introduced), then Envidor or Batavia can be applied when eggs are turning orange.
- Weed control options are the same as apples, above.

## PLUMS

- First Plum Moth catches are well below threshold. As usual, you should spray when 50 moths are caught in a week (30 if the crop is light). There continue to be contaminant species caught in the pheromone traps. The species we are looking for (*Grapholita funebrana*, pictured right) has the slightly darker transverse band about ¾ of the way along the body and the paler end of the wings. As we stand at the moment, control options are Decis (farm stocks only, final use date 31/7/19), Dipel DF, Hallmark Zeon, Pyrethrum 5EC (final sale date 31/5/19), Runner and Spruzit (farm stocks only, final use date 30/9/19). We expect Emergency Authorisations for Exirel and Tracer for SWD control, which incidentally will control Plum Fruit Moth.
- Many apricot crops need some hand thinning to ensure good fruit size.



## CHERRIES

- Black Cherry Aphid hot spots can still be found in orchards. Control options remain Calypso, Gazelle SG or Batavia (outdoor crops only).
- Make sure SWD traps are monitored and maintained, but the crop will be increasingly attractive for the pest, so you should be planning to monitor fruits. All the details on how to monitor can be found on the [AHDB website](#).

## MISCELLANEOUS

- If you missed recent farm walks, the English Apple Man (John Guest) reports on many of them in his [online journals](#).

Further information please contact Jonathan Blackman: 07774 738213. [jonathan.blackman@hlhld.co.uk](mailto:jonathan.blackman@hlhld.co.uk)  
H.L.Hutchinson Ltd., Weasenham Lane, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, PE13 2RN.

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