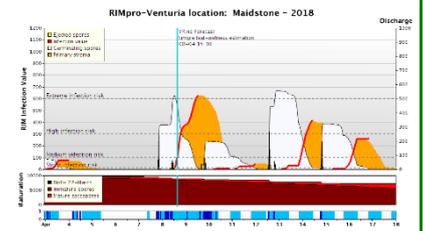


## APPLES

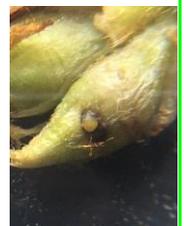
It's our people that make the difference

- Every one of our weather stations are giving an output in RIMpro very similar to the one shown (right). This indicates a high risk scab period starting over the weekend and continuing for much of the rest of this coming week. It is therefore essential, where green tissue is exposed (many of the main season cider varieties have not broken bud yet), that it is covered with scab fungicide. If you have struggled to get cover on because of ground conditions, then any spraying from Monday onwards must have a 'kickback' product included (e.g. Scala) with the protectant fungicide.
- Blossom Weevil activity in orchards is getting increasingly easy to find, with feeding holes and some egg laying activity (shown right). By the end of this week temperatures should be sufficient for weevils to be active in orchards and to be well controlled by an insecticide application.
- Tortrix and Winter Moth caterpillars are starting to be found.
- Weeds are growing now, so herbicide applications are moving up the priority list. Kyleo and glyphosate products need to be applied before green cluster stage. Roundup Biactive GL has an EAMU for use at other times during the season. Depitox (2,4-D) can be applied at any time but should be avoided in bloom.
- All of the herbicides mentioned above can be affected by cation lock-up. This occurs when calcium or magnesium ions in hard water render the active substance inactive. The use of a water conditioner will mitigate this problem. X-Clude is a new product which you add to the tank first and will 'lock-up' the cations. It also lowers the water pH, has humectant properties (it slows the drying process, allowing the chemical to be taken up by the plant), has anti-foam effects and will reduce drift. It can be used as a straight replacement for X-Change.
- Once there is sufficient green tissue, you can start Powdery Mildew control measures. Kindred can be applied up until the end of flowering as an eradicator and anti-sporulant. Flint, Fontelis and Sercadis all have very useful protectant activity, as well as their scab activity.



## PEARS

- With white bud approaching on more advanced sites, then this is the best time to control Pear Midge. Calypso will do the job and will control aphids and early instar Pear Sucker nymphs. Anthocorids are starting to be found, so you need to get this treatment done to avoid effects on this useful predator which will be attracted in to the crop during flowering.
- Egg laying activity can be found now from *Anthonomus spilotus*, the Pear Blossom Weevil (pictured, right). Apple Blossom Weevil (*Anthonomus piri*) will also attack pears (see apple notes above).
- See notes on weeds in apples above.



## PLUMS

- Early varieties are coming into bloom and should have been covered with a fungicide for Blossom Wilt (Signum, Switch or Teldor).
- Leaf Curling Aphid seems to be the most common aphid found and can be particularly damaging in Marjorie's Seedling. Application of Calypso or Gazelle SG just prior to flowering will give good control of this and other aphid species. They will also control Plum Sawfly. Otherwise, wait until the end of flowering to apply your insecticide.

## CHERRIES

- Cherry bud is finally on the move. Be on the lookout for caterpillars which will need to be controlled before flowering.
- Crop hygiene has become a much higher priority since the arrival of SWD so many growers are trying to remove all fruits from the orchard at harvest time. It also helps to reduce the amount of inoculum for Blossom Wilt and Brown Rot, which can come from mummified fruits (pictured, right). Fungicide choice at white bud will be one of Signum, Switch or Teldor.



## MISCELLANEOUS

- Good Fruit Grower in the USA recently reported on the IFTA tour of New Zealand. You can read it [here](#).