

FIELD EVALUATION OF INSECTICIDES AND ACARICIDES FOR ALMOND PRODUCTION

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Effective IPM programs for almonds require up-to-date information on control options. While some of these options, such as winter orchard sanitation for navel orangeworm, are consistent from year to year, other options such as chemical controls are in a constant state of flux. Each year the Shafter REC almond orchard will be used for multiple trials related to the management of almond pests such as navel orangeworm, Pacific spider mite, and peach twig borer. Trials will evaluate new, including reduced-risk, products for their effectiveness, as well as be used for other studies related to pest biology and biological control. The long-term goal of the various projects is to improve the effectiveness and predictability of IPM programs while minimizing negative impacts on biological control and the environment. This includes work to evaluate reduced-risk insecticides, evaluate alternatives to insecticides that are high producers of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and to find ways to minimize impacts on biological control.