TRAP SUPPRESSION USING DIFFERENT CM PHEROMONE DISPENSERS

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Two hand-applied dispensers of codling moth pheromone are commercially available: BioContol's Isomate-C and Concep's Checkmate in California. To compare these two products we measured trap suppression in side by side plots by releasing sterile codling moth males, assessing trap catches in each plot. The release of sterile males gives a greater population with which to measure trap shutdown than that of the natural population. Two plots of ten acres each were set up, one with Isomate-C and the other with Checkmate and replicated in three orchards. Sterile codling moths obtained from Canada were released at a rate of 800 moths per acre in each plot. Traps were set at the top of the trees in a grid pattern in each of the 10 acre plots. Traps were checked every other day for 10 days following release. Four releases were done at approximately 300, 650,1200 and 2000 degree-days. The release times were chosen to coincide with codling moth flights to estimate how the dispensers were performing during those periods. There was a statistically significant difference among treatments (p<.01) and release dates (p<.01). We also measured dispenser longevity through periodic laboratory analysis and by following weight loss for the BioControl dispensers.

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