APPLE IPM

A Guide for Sampling and Managing Major Apple Pests in New York State

European Red Mite Sampling Chart

Cornell Cooperative Extension
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This procedure involves examining middle aged leaves for motile mites (any stage except eggs). Use this chart, which corresponds to a mite density of 2.5 mites per leaf, from June 1 until June 30. You will not be counting mites, but will only determine whether they are present or absent on each leaf sampled.

Starting with a random tree and sampling every other tree, collect 4 leaves in a plastic bag from each of 5 trees, choosing from each quadrant of the canopy. To make sure the leaves are of an intermediate age, pick them from the middle of the fruit cluster.

Using a magnifier, examine the top and bottom surface of each leaf for motile mites, and keep track of the number of leaves containing motile mites. When all 20 leaves have been examined, compare this number with the numbers on the above decision guide. If the number of leaves with mites is equal to the values on the stairstep lines, the decision is the one shown in the area immediately below the value (example: For "29" after sampling 40 leaves, the decision is "Continue sampling"; for "8" the decision is to "Sample in 14 days"). When the counts fall into any of the shaded regions, sampling is stopped and a decision is made to either treat, or else re-sample in 7 or 14 days. If the counts fall in the "Continue sampling" zone, take and examine more leaf samples in batches of 10 (5 per tree) until the counts fall into one of the shaded regions. If you reach one of the resample zones, the population is below threshold, and should remain so for at least the number of days stated. Return at the designated time and conduct another sample. If the "7 day" resample date falls during the 5.0 mites/leaf Threshold period, you can wait for a total of 14 days before resampling.
MITE SAMPLING CHART - Threshold = 5.0 mites/leaf (July 1 - 31)

- This procedure involves examining middle aged leaves for motile mites (any stage except eggs). Use this chart, which corresponds to a mite density of 5.0 mites per leaf, from July 1 until July 31. You will not be counting mites, but will only determine whether they are present or absent on each leaf sampled.

- Starting with a random tree and sampling every other tree, collect 4 leaves in a plastic bag from each of 5 trees, choosing from each quadrant of the canopy. To make sure the leaves are of an intermediate age, pick them from the middle of the fruit cluster or foliar terminal.

- Using a magnifier, examine the top and bottom surface of each leaf for motile mites, and keep track of the number of leaves containing motile mites. When all 20 leaves have been examined, compare this number with the numbers on the above decision guide. If the number of leaves with mites is equal to the values on the stairstep lines, the decision is the one shown in the area immediately below the value (example: For "36" after sampling 40 leaves, the decision is "Continue sampling"; for "13" the decision is to "Sample in 14 days"). When the counts fall into any of the shaded regions, sampling is stopped and a decision is made to either treat, or else re-sample in 7 or 14 days. If the counts fall in the "Continue sampling" zone, take and examine more leaf samples in batches of 10 (5 per tree) until the counts fall into one of the shaded regions. If you reach one of the resample zones, the population is below threshold, and should remain so for at least the number of days stated. Return at the designated time and conduct another sample. If the "7 day" resample date falls during the 7.5 mites/leaf Threshold period, you can wait for a total of 14 days before resampling.
- This procedure involves examining middle aged leaves for motile mites (any stage except eggs). Use this chart, which corresponds to a mite density of 7.5 mites per leaf, from August 1-15. You will not be counting mites, but will only determine whether they are present or absent on each leaf sampled.

- Starting with a random tree and sampling every other tree, collect 4 leaves in a plastic bag from each of 5 trees, choosing from each quadrant of the canopy. To make sure the leaves are of an intermediate age, pick them from the middle of the fruit cluster or foliar terminal.

- Using a magnifier, examine the top and bottom surface of each leaf for motile mites, and keep track of the number of leaves containing motile mites. When all 20 leaves have been examined, compare this number with the numbers on the above decision guide. If the number of leaves with mites is equal to the values on the stairstep lines, the decision is the one shown in the area immediately below the value (example: For "39" after sampling 40 leaves, the decision is "Continue sampling"; for "18" the decision is to "Sample in 14 days"). When the counts fall into any of the shaded regions, sampling is stopped and a decision is made to either treat, or else re-sample in 7 or 14 days. If the counts fall in the "Continue sampling" zone, take and examine more leaf samples in batches of 10 (5 per tree) until the counts fall into one of the shaded regions. If you reach one of the resample zones, the population is below threshold, and should remain so for at least the number of days stated. Return at the designated time and conduct another sample. If the resample date falls after August 15, there should be no further need for additional samples or miticide sprays this season.