## Attract and Kill: A New Management tool to control orchard pests?

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#### Talk Overview:

- Why/How attract and kill?
- Case Study: Oriental Fruit Moth
- Future Directions/Targets?

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#### Why Attract and Kill

- Mating disruption functions by distracting males for a limited time
- e.g. Codling moth: 3 hrs of mating time per night 4 day life span each false approach might use 1/12 of a male's mating lifespan
- Attract and kill uses **all** of a male's remaining mating lifespan



# Current attract-and-kill technology for fruit pests:

## sex pheromones + an insecticide



#### The Insect MUST contact the source/device:

- Plume has to attract insects from a distance
- Insect must land on and interact with the device
  - If the lure is too hot the insect may run
  - If the device is too small the insect may not touch it

## Current Attract and Kill Technology:

- Wax or polymer droplets with both pheromone and toxicant
- Moths have a very small surface to contact
- Moths have to contact sex pheromones and insecticides at the same time
- Increases the risk of moths overloading their sensory system and not touching the formulation



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# Unfortunately, Many A&K formulations developed to date have:

- Provided less or equivalent control compared to reservoir dispensers
- Many operate via disruption, not insecticide poisoning



#### Case Study: Oriental fruit moth

- OFM is a relatively easy pest to disrupt
- Responds heavily to traps and low pheromone rates
- Lab work:
  - Will OFM contact our device sufficiently for knockdown?
  - Is there and optimum orientation of our device?
- Field work:
  - Will OFM contact device in the field?
  - Will our device "shut down" traps comparably to MD?





#### Wind tunnel bioassay

- Attract-and-kill: 10X +
  lure
- Control: untreated surface + lure
- Male behavior compared

Behavioral category: wing fanning, fly out (FO), upwind without source contact, source contact (SC), no response (NR)

- Duration of contact
- Moths contacted surface were recaptured for observation after 1 and 24 h







- Male's behaviors were compared in the wind tunnel
- Duration of contact was also recorded







#### Lab Study Conclusions

- Toxicant is not repellant
- Contact with our device results in near 100% mortality
- No difference in response based on device orientation













#### Video Study Conclusions

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- Vertically oriented device provides the most source contacts
- 0.1 mg lure provided more contacts than 0.01 lure



#### Attract and Kill Field Trial

- 1/2 acre plots at CRC
- 2 Experiments
  - 50/acre MD, ATK, and AT devices
  - ATK rate trial: 0,50,100,200 /acre
- Marked moths used to supplement wild populations ~200/plot/ week
- 2 spatial replicates run 3 times (6 reps total)









#### **Field Study Conclusions**

- Attract and kill device provides disruption beyond MD and compared to an MD standard
- 50 Devices provide equivalent disruption to 200 devices!



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# Potential Benefits of our attract-and-kill pouch

- No insecticide residues on the fruits/ vegetables
- Low rates of pheromone, reduce the cost (>1000 fold less compared to MD)
- Highly selective, safer for natural enemies and non-targets
- Fewer dispensers needed compared to MD?

### **Next Steps/Future Targets**

- Large scale field trials utilizing wild OFM
- Commercialization of device for OFM
- Exploration of device for additional pest species
  - Must have a strong pheromone/ semiochemical
  - Must exhibit contact behavior in response to semiochemical

#### Future Target: Obliquebanded leafroller



## Additional Future Targets

- Japanese Beetle ~ Preliminary work underway
- Codling moth ~ will it contact our device?
- Spotted wing drosophila ~ can we identify a good semiochemical?

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