

# CROPWATCH

29 September 2020

October Reminders

Fruit Growers Victoria

Watch for plague thrips during blossom – All crops

Monitoring for Apple Dimple Bug (pink stage onwards) – Apples

Scab cover sprays – Apples & Pears

Finish Woolly aphid soil drench or fertigation applications - Apples

Watch Western Flower Thrips – Apples/Cherries/Stonefruit

CM Mating disruption – Apples and Pears

Monitor Mealybug – Pears

Watch late aphids – Stone fruit

## Weekly Weather Outlook links

### Detailed weather for all areas

- [Tatura](#)
- [Shepparton](#)
- [Cobram](#)
- [Coldstream \(Yarra Valley\)](#)
- [Lysterfield](#)
- [Pakenham](#)
- [Moorooduc \(Mornington Peninsula\)](#)
- [Harcourt](#)
- [Drouin](#)

## Around the Orchards



## Agronomic Advice

**Aphid** – Over the last 4-5 years seeing an increase of populations where excess insecticides are used. Monitor and only spray if no parasitism seen.

**Thrips** – Monitor daily during warm spells, try to avoid using synthetic pyrethroids where possible.

**Apple Dimple Bug** – Always a challenge to decide best chemistry to avoid disrupting IPM. Maintain regular monitoring.

**QFF** – Wet weather outlook means a high-pressure season for QFF ahead, be setup for baiting earlier than normal this season.

**Pear Blister Mite** – Seeing some patchy blocks with blister mite damage, not much can be done now, mostly carryover from last season miticide program.

**Earwigs** – Some light feeding damage on pear buds showing traces damage, earwigs are great predators so only a concern when numbers extremely high and in tree guards.

**Apple & Pear scab** – Recent wet weather and forecasted wet spring will see higher pressure season for scab, always apply preventative sprays close to possible infection rain events and curatives within kickback periods stated on product labels.

**Western Flower Thrip** – Highest risk period leading into petal fall in apples and just prior to shuck fall in nectarines when juvenile WFT can feed causing silvering.

**Mealybug** – Finding mixed populations in blocks where excessive pesticides are being used in previous season.

**Codling Moth** – Likely to be a biofix after warm weather this weekend, ensure Mating Disruption blocks have traps clear of pheromone ties so that trap numbers are not effected and correct biofix can be set.

## Links of interest

### Maximise Efficacy of chemical thinners

<https://www.treefruit.com.au/orchard/management/crop-growth-management/item/441-maximise-efficacy-of-chemical-thinners-part-3>

### Western Flower Thrip – WSU article

<http://treefruit.wsu.edu/crop-protection/opm/western-flower-thrips/>

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