

**21 December 2020** 

### **December Reminders**

Fruit Growers Victoria

Maintain bait sprays for QFF on Stonefruit & Pomefruit

#### **Brown Rot – Stonefruit & Cherries**

2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Codling Moth sprays – Apples and Pears

Monitor Mealybug – Pears

Start mite monitoring – all crops

**Carpophillus Beetle – Stonefruit** 

WBC Pear stop drop – Late Dec/Early Jan

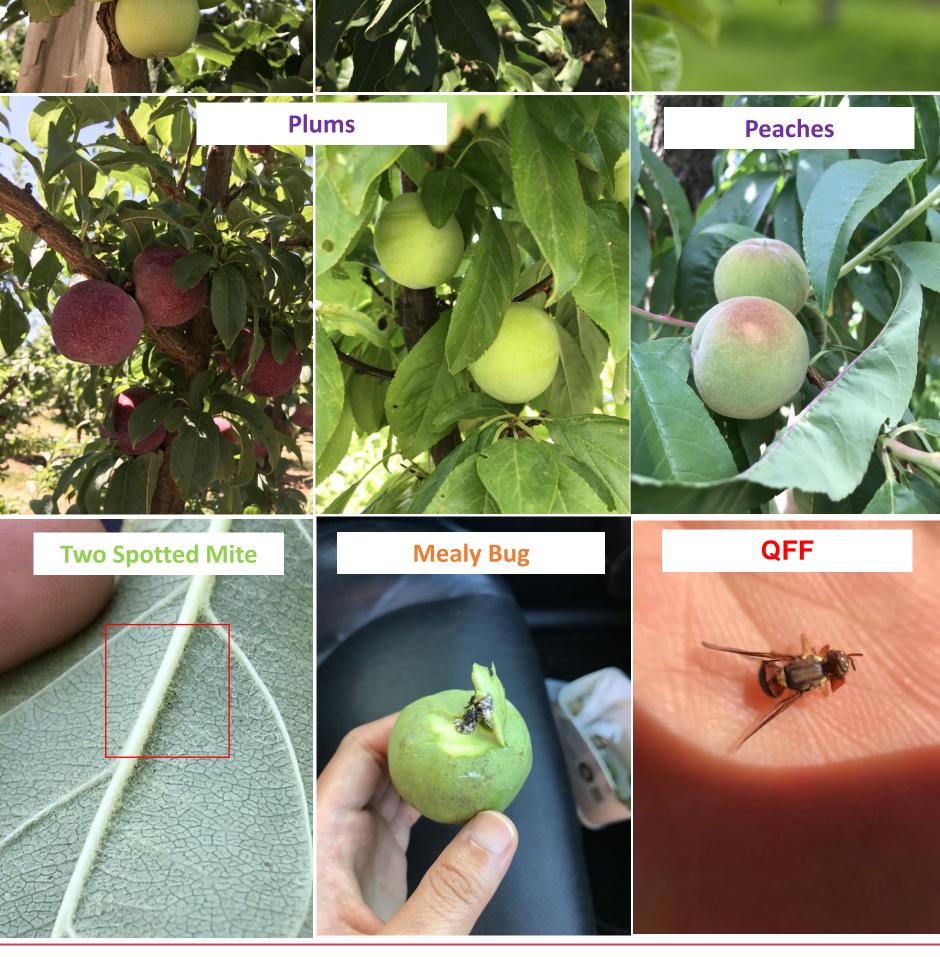
## **Weekly Weather Outlook links**

#### Detailed weather for all areas

- <u>Tatura</u>
- Shepparton
- Cobram
- <u>Coldstream (Yarra Valley)</u>
- <u>Pakenham</u>
  Moorooduc (Mornington Peninsula)
- Harcourt
- Drouin
- Lysterfield

# **Around the Orchards**





## **Agronomic Advice**

**QFF** – Wet, and warm weather means a high-pressure season for QFF, baiting earlier and more frequent than normal this season, QFF found in traps this week. Start baiting immediately after rain events on stone fruit. Cut earlier maturing varieties and look for larvae. Post harvest baiting just as important as pre harvest. Ensure no fruit is left on trees post harvest.

Brown Rot – High pressure season, ensure adequate cover prior to infection periods

and curatives post infection, monitor WHP's especially for export.

**Mealybug –** Finding mixed populations in blocks where excessive pesticides are being used in previous season. Continue checking water shoots as well as fruit.

**Codling Moth –** 2<sup>nd</sup> GEN egg hatch dates range from 19 DEC to 26 DEC depending on population and region. Generally, covers need to be kept on up to end of December in warmer regions. Trap numbers this week are an indicator on how well 1<sup>st</sup> GEN has been controlled.

**Two Spotted Mites –** Start monitoring for two spotted mites in tree centres, also make note of predatory mites if present. Wet weather will help with predatory mite populations. Early detection of two spotted mites helps with early control. More blocks with two spot appearing weekly.

**Carpophillus Beetle –** Still a major problem for peaches and nectarines, unfortunately broad-spectrum insecticides still being used. More recently introduced insecticides being trialled. Post harvest control as important as pre harvest.

#### Links of interest

#### Managing mites – Dave Williams

https://www.fgv.com.au/grower-services/latest-updates/technical-articles/478-managingmites-in-the-orchard

#### Pear growth regulators – Dr Yan Wang

https://www.goodfruit.com/how-to-use-pear-growth-regulators/

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