

EVALUATION OF PRUNING CUT TREATMENTS FOR CONTROL OF EASTERN FILBERT BLIGHT CANKERS, 2002: Our objective was to determine if treatment of the pruning cut surface with various materials could prevent EFB canker extension. A commercial block of moderately diseased ‘Ennis’ trees planted in 1991 on a 15 x 17 ft spacing near Keizer, OR was selected. All treatments were randomized within 20 single tree replications. Trees were selected based on similarity in overall size and number of EFB cankers found in the canopy. A total of 5 EFB cankers per tree were selected and cut off at the base of visible canker symptoms on 21 Mar 02 (buds beginning to swell). Each cut end was treated with either white, oil-based spray paint (RUDD Tree and Log MarKing, Chemtron Aerosol Division, Rudd Company, Inc., Seattle, WA), Orbit, Gallex or left nontreated. Another canker in each tree was selected but left intact, except for scraping off the stroma, to serve as a control. Fungicides were used for EFB control in this orchard during the spring growing season. The length of EFB canker extension was determined on 15 Jul 02.

Most all (95%) of the cankers left in tact continued to expand down the limbs for an average canker extension of 5.7 inches. Cutting cankers off at the base with either no treatment or some kind of treatment significantly reduced the average length of canker extension. There was no significant effect of any of the cut surface treatments when compared to non-treated cut surfaces. Although not expected, it is possible that spring treatments of fungicide for EFB control had some effect on canker expansion on cut surfaces. This later hypothesis will need to be tested in the future.

Treatments	Ennis	
	Length of Canker Extension (inches)*	Incidence per 20 trees (%)
Cankers left intact	5.7 a	95
Cankers cut at 0 inches then No treatment of cut surface.	0.5 b	20
Cankers cut at 0 inches then cut surface sprayed with white spray paint.	0.0 b	0
Cankers cut at 0 inches then cut surface brushed with Gallex at 0 dilution.	0.2 b	5
Cankers cut at 0 inches then cut surface brushed with Orbit at 0 dilution.	0.2 b	10
Cankers cut at 0 inches then cut surface brushed with Orbit at 2.5 fl oz/100 gal water.	0.4 b	20

\* Means followed by the same letter do not differ significantly based on Fisher’s protected LSD (P=0.05).

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