

All Gardens Great & Small
by
York Co.
Horticultural Agent
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pest management (IPM). IPM integrates as many pest management tactics as possible. They include biological control; using one organism to control another by predation, parasitism, or competition; cultural control; horticultural practices such as specialized pruning, orchard sanitation, and planting scab-resistant cultivars; insect behavior modification such as mating disruption; and the judicious use of pesticides. Successful IPM requires knowledge about pests and the vulnerable stages of the crop.

method. Oriental Fruit Moth is a pest of peaches, plums and cherries. This insect over-winters as a mature larva encased in a cocoon. These cocoons can be found in peach mummies and other debris on the ground as well as beneath the bark on tree trunks. Apple scab, pear scab and pear leaf spot are fungal diseases that over-winter on dead leaves. Collect and destroy old leaves from these trees as well as from nearby flowering crabapples.

Although sanitation will not provide complete control of these problems, it may help keep the pest and disease levels down to a more manageable or tolerable level. For more information on fruit diseases and insect pests ask for, a newly revised Penn State publication, "Small Scale Fruit Production Guide." It is available for \$9 at your Extension Office.

Any questions can be directed to Tom Becker, horticultural extension agent, at 840-7408.

For example, orchard insect pests like oriental fruit moth and disease organisms like apple scab and over-winter in leaf litter and old fruit left on the ground. Fall and winter clean-up of this debris is an important cultural control

observation. Develop a habit of observing your trees regularly, and daily if possible. Look at the blossoms, fruit, upper and lower surfaces of the leaves, new shoot growth, and general color and angle of the leaves. Also be aware that if you see changes in the plant, they may not be due to pests. The plant's nutrition can cause poor leaf color or unusual growth patterns, and humans can also cause damage to plants.

An approach that reduces our reliance on only chemicals pesticides is referred to as integrated

HOME FRUIT PESTS: USE ORCHARD SANITATION
Can Fruit Crops Be Grown In The Home Garden Without Pesticides?
The simple answer is yes, but fruit quality may decrease. This is true in wet or dry years. Quality fruit, similar to what you can buy in the supermarket, cannot easily be grown without pesticides. If you don't wish to use pesticides, you can employ many other tactics to reduce pest numbers on fruit trees. The first step is careful

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