

# Peach Leaf Curl

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Peach leaf curl was a problem in many local peach and nectarine orchards in 2006. This was due to the unusually high amount of rainfall we experienced last spring. In most years, this disease is easily controlled in our area with one dormant copper & oil spray. However, in years with a high amount of rainfall, two sprays are sometimes necessary to get satisfactory control. This is especially true in highly susceptible fresh market varieties. The first spray is traditionally applied around Thanksgiving. The second application is applied in late January or early February. If only one spray is applied, it must be applied before flower buds begin to show any color in the spring. UC Plant Pathologist Jim Adaskaveg has shown that a dormant Ziram application reduces peach leaf curl as well or better than copper. If leaf curl symptoms are noticed soon after trees leaf out in the spring, Ziram or chlorothalonil (Bravo / Echo) can be applied to stop further spread of the disease.

<b>Efficacy of fungicide treatments applied during dormancy against peach leaf curl of Fay Elberta peaches at UC Davis. Jim Adaskaveg. 2005/06.</b>			
Treatment <sup>1</sup>	Date of Application		% Incidence <sup>2</sup>
	12/19/05	1/24/06	
Untreated	--	--	100 a
Kocide 2000 @ 8 lbs	X		77 b
Kocide 2000 @ 8 lbs	X	X	48 bc
Nordox 75 WG @ 3 lb	X	X	62 b
Ziram 76 DF @ 8 lbs	X		26 c
Ziram 76 DF @ 8 lbs	X	X	4 d
Ziram (6 lb) + Cuprofix (4 lb) tankmixed	X	X	4 d
Cuprofix (6 lb) on 12-19 + Ziram (8 lbs) on 1-24	X	X	5 d

<sup>1</sup>Materials were applied without oil. Oil (at least 2 gallons per 100 gallons of water) should be included in a copper application to substantially improve control.

<sup>2</sup>Incidence is the average percentage of 100 shoots with leaf curl when evaluated in April 2006.