2004 Mite Alert For Peaches

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 Two Spotted Spider Mite (TSSM). The TSSM is the primary mite pest of southeastern peaches	 European Red Mite (ERM).

In South and Middle Georgia peaches, mite infestations began to be observed in mid-to-late May. Relative to apples, pears or plum, peaches are quite tolerant of mites. None the less, mites can be quite damaging to peaches, particularly if trees are drought stressed. Unfortunately, treatment thresholds for mites on peach do not exist. Normally, mites do little harm to peaches until there are at least 20 to 30 mites per leaf. However, research has been quite limited; even the best guidelines must be tempered by grower experience and intuition.

Heavy crop load, later than optimal thinning or moisture stress can all be expected to intensify mite injury. Conversely, orchards that are not drought stressed are often able to cope with otherwise borderline mite infestations. Treat before mites begin to cause defoliation.

Mites can also be a major source of irritation to picking labor. While the mites are strictly plant feeders, when abundant they can be disruptive to hand laborers.

Miticide	Rate/acre	Efficacy	REIx/PHIy	Comments
Acramite 50 WS	0.75 to 1 lb	+++++	12 hrs/ 3 days	Best overall peach miticide. Excellent against TSSM. Assess performance in 1 to 3 days.
Vendex 50 WP	1 to 1.5 lbs	+++	2 days/ 14 days	May require two applications to control heavy infestations. Assess performance in 1 to 3 days.
Pyramite 60 WP	4.4 ozs	++++ for TSSM, +++++ for ERM	12 hrs/ 7 days	Good TSSM control, excellent ERM control. Assess performance in 1 to 3 days.
Nexter 75 WP	8.8 to 10.6 ozs	+++ for TSSM, ++++ for ERM	12 hrs/ 7 days	Has not been tested against mites on southeastern peaches. Performance ratings inferred from other crops. Assess performance in 1 to 3 days.
Appollo 0.42 SC	2 to 8 ozs	++++	12 hrs/ 30 days	Controls mite eggs. Slow-acting, expect a 7 to 10 day delay before control will be readily evident.

Savey 50 WP	3 to 6 ozs	++++	12 hrs/ 28 days	Controls mite eggs. Slow-acting, expect a 7 to 10 day delay before control will be readily evident.
Zeal 72 WP	2 to 3 ozs	++++	non-bearing trees only	Controls mite eggs. Slow-acting, expect a 7 to 10 day delay before control will be readily evident.

x Re-entry interval
y Post-harvest interval

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