



Coddling Moth Control

What are codling moths?

Codling moths are the adult stage of the worm that ruins your apple and pear harvest. Overwintering larvae live and hide under last year's leaves, in old fruit, and other protected areas nearby. During the growing season, the codling moth will usually have two separate generations that attempt to infest your fruit. Controlling the first generation of codling moths will reduce the pressure from the second generation and keep your fruit from being damaged. The male moths emerge about one week before the female populations and are a reliable indicator to begin your spraying regiment.

Codling Moth Traps

Codling moth traps are used to identify the presence of male moths in early spring. These traps aren't intended to control the moths, only alert you to their presence and let you know it is time to begin spraying. The codling moth trap uses a pheromone that attracts the male moths, using glue to trap them. Your traps should be placed 4–6 feet off the ground in the middle of your tree. Multiple traps will be required if have multiple trees and they are separated by 100 feet or more. Monitor your traps daily after set-up. Once your trap has caught five moths, remove the trap from the tree and spray with your selected control product. After spraying replace the trap and continue monitoring. Repeat this process through May. The second generation of adult moths will emerge in June or July. Your trap will be effective for 4–6 weeks. So additional traps may be needed for season-long coverage.

Controlling Codling Moths

Zamzows has multiple options for you to choose from to control codling moths in your apples and pears. Our most effective and recommended spray is Zamzows Last Call. Zamzows Last Call is an organic spray that is highly effective and safe to use on your apples and pears. There are no restrictions on the number of times you can spray Zamzows Last Call and you can even spray up to the day of harvest. Using a surfactant like Zamzows Stay-Put will increase the effectiveness of the product. You should always spray in the evening to prevent the accidental killing of pollinating bees.

Codling moths can infest multiple types of trees. So, if you have crabapples, ornamental pears, walnuts, and even peach trees then as an added precaution you may want to treat any of these trees in your landscape.

You can receive notifications of the presence of codling moths in our area by signing up at Pacific Northwest Pest Alerts. http://pnwpestalert.net/

Late Season Control

In late fall, be sure to clean up any old or damaged fruit that is picked up and throw it away. Don't put this fruit in your mulch pile, as any larvae can overwinter in your mulch pile and contribute to next year's population. Clean up fallen leaves to reduce places for insects to hide.