



KENTUCKY FRUIT NOTES

SUMMARY OF TEST RESULTS ON THE CONTROL OF STRAWBERRY INSECTS--1950

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Investigations in the control of strawberry insects this year were directed at evaluating the performance of a number of insecticides and combinations of insecticides against the strawberry crown borer and the strawberry weevil.

Strawberry crown borer

This snout beetle has caused heavy losses in Kentucky; it overwinters under litter in or near strawberry fields and in the early spring it begins feeding on foliage and laying eggs. The eggs hatch into legless grubs that soon eat into the crown, where they bore tunnels until they emerge again as adult beetles during the summer. Plants thus infested are a total loss.

Test plots to conduct the work were located in Jefferson county in a strawberry field that had been planted near an infested patch two years previously. Ten insecticide treatments and an untreated check, each replicated five times, were randomized over the test field. A row 30 feet long was considered a replicate.

Treatments were applied on April 17 and results were recorded on April 28. All dusts were applied at the rate of 30 pounds per acre. As determined by the number of leaves showing feeding punctures per 20 feet of row per replicate, the most effective treatments were: parathion, 2 pounds of 15% wettable powder per 100 gallons (sprayed until foliage was thoroughly wet); 2% parathion dust, 2 1/2% aldrin dust, and 5% chlordane plus 5% DDT dust mixture. Where these treatments were used, there were averages of 7.4, 7.6, 7.6, and 8.4 punctured leaves, respectively. Treatments less effective