Understanding & managing insects on pistachio orchards (PS16000)

Pistachio AGM

Mildura, September 11th 2019





PISTACHIO FUND This project has been funded by Hort Innovation using the pistachio research and development levy and funds from the Australian Government. For more information on the fund and strategic levy investment visit horticulture.com.au

Objectives of PS16000

- 1. Review scouting data from previous seasons
- 2. "Broad" orchard assessments in 2017/18
- 3. Focus on Carpophilus & beneficials 2018/19
- 4. Recommendations on potential pests
- 5. The role of 'mummies' and orchard hygiene
- 6. Why so many beneficials?

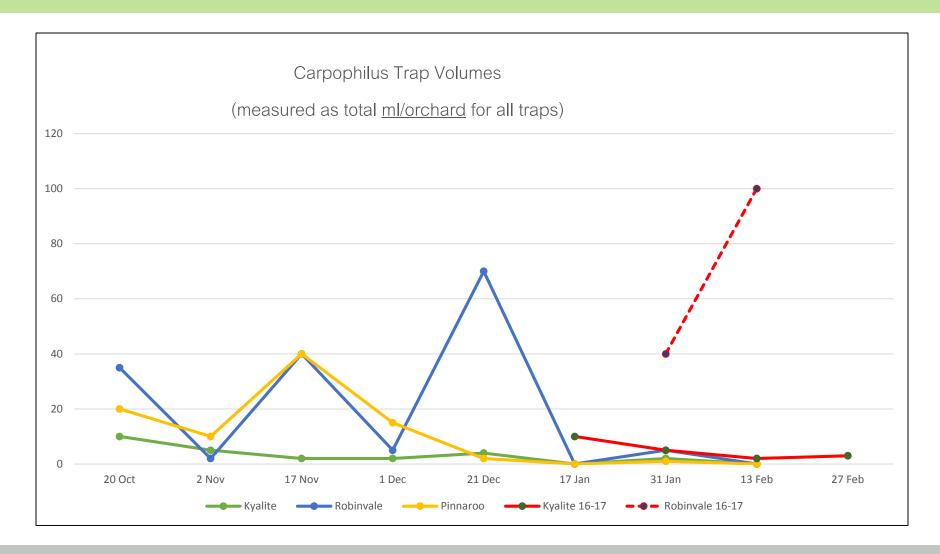
What do we know so far



Pistachio insect management (PS16000) – Update September 2019

Year 1 Activities (2017/18)

- 1. Review scouting results from 2015/16 & 2016/17
- 2. Traps for LBAM, Carob, Heliothis, Carpophilus
- 3. Yellow sticky traps
- 4. Beat sampling & visual checks
- 5. 8 visits to each of the 3 orchards (in season)
- 6. Samples to Crop Health Services (Dec & Feb)
- 7. 1 visit post harvest (mummies)



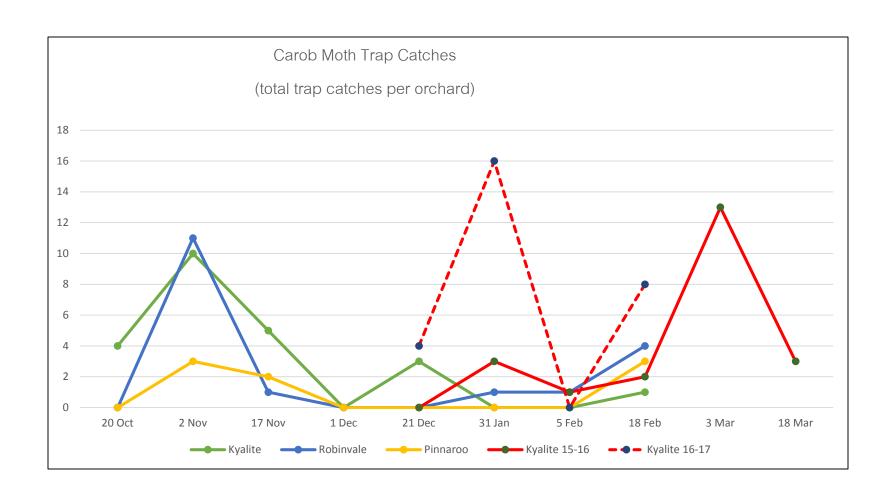
- At least 8 species of carpophilus across sites
- C. nr. dimidiatus found at all sites:
 - December found at all sites, but <1% of sample
 - February Pinnaroo = nil

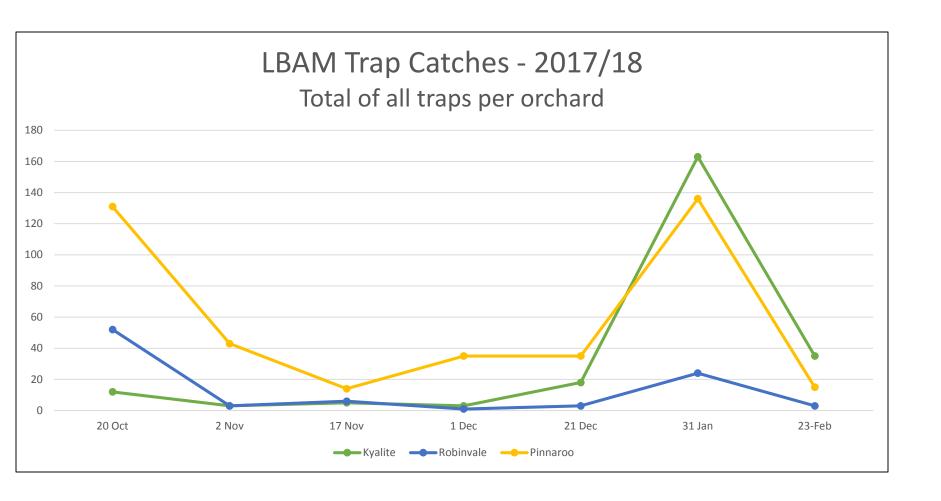
Kyalite = 2% to 10% of sample

Robinvale = 24% to 57% of sample

1500 nuts checked pre-harvest for CB & CM

BUT – no damage at any site







Some damage, no significant pests found



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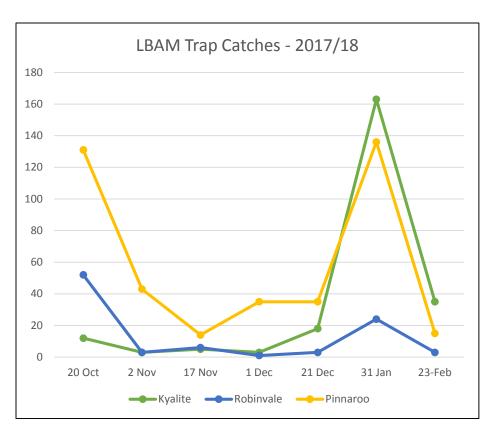
Year 2 (2018/19)

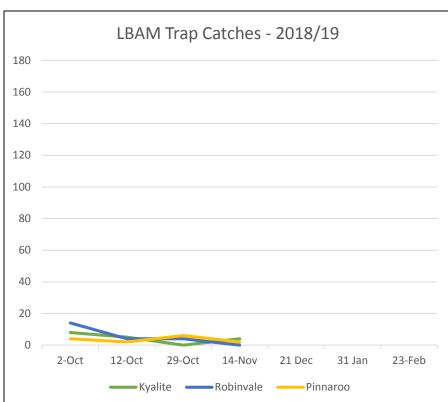


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Year 2 Activities (2018/19)

- 1. Early season trapping of LBAM
- 2. Focus on assessing beneficials
- 3. General pest scouting during field visits
- 4. Communicate early results to industry
- 5. Liaise with the almond industry on Carpophilus developments





No damage seen in either season

Year 1 and 2 - Extremely good levels of beneficials





Range of Beneficial Insects in Orchards

		October 2018	November 2018	January 2019
All Sites	Morphospecies	33	35	12
Kyalite	Morphospecies	18	11	8
	Main Families	Hymenoptera (wasps) Coleoptera (beetles) Spiders	Coccinellidae (ladybirds) Hemerobiidae (lacewing)	Coccinellidae (ladybirds) Melyridae (red/blue beetle)
Robinvale	Morphospecies	16	16	11
	Main Families	Hymenoptera (wasps) Coleoptera (beetles) Spiders	Coccinellidae (ladybirds) Hemerobiidae (lacewing)	Coccinellidae (ladybirds)
Pinnaroo	Morphospecies	14	23	14
	Main Families	Hymenoptera (wasps) Coleoptera (beetles) Spiders	Coccinellidae (ladybirds) Hemerobiidae (lacewing)	Coccinellidae (ladybirds)

Year 3 (2019/20)



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Year 3 Activities (2019/20)

Carpophilus:

Overwintering populations and orchard hygiene



Beneficials:

3 visits - orchard management/insectary plants in IPM

Fact Sheets:

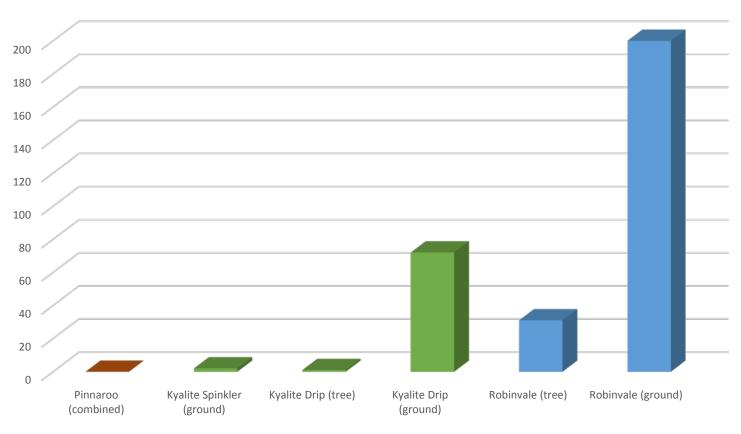
With PGAI, update relevant Fact Sheets

Mummies vs Blanks

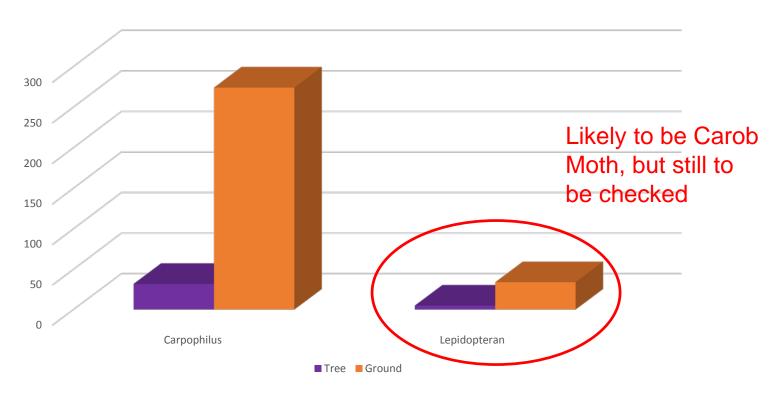








Tree vs. Ground



Carpophilus and Orchard Hygiene



- Carpophilus is also a storage pest
- Seen in processing/markets?
- No in-season evidence seen (yet)

Hygiene is the best line of defence

Thank you and Questions

<u>Acknowledgements</u>

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