



December Report

2018

Brad Alexander

Pollen Balls

- Danica collected 500 cocoons with a high a pollen ball count from the CCTC
- After opening 'every cocoon' they found that it was not actually high pollen balls, rather fungal infections that are being mistakenly identified as pollen balls.
- This was only from one single site so it may not be representative of the whole, but it is definitely worth looking into. It may shed some light on why some places see more pollen balls in dry years but others on wet years; we could be seeing two things being classed as one issue.

PGRs

- Awaiting results from UFV to use in the design of this year's field trial

Weevils

- We are using the information from last summer to modify the trial plan for 2019. We will add a second spray 7 - 10 days after the first, and add another sweep date.
- The cost of the extra work will be offset by reducing the number of treatments/rates, since not all of the treatments were effective.
- Paul should have the new trial plan ready soon. He had hoped to have it done already, but the analysis is taking longer than I anticipated. The site requirements will be the same as last year:
 - 1 acre, no spraying in the area, no irrigation during the course of the trial, good crop land (not marginal land).

CSWG - Ag-Plastics

- The Ag-ministry has released more information on the proposed Ag-plastics recycling project.
 - The first year 2019 will be primarily outreach. There will be a PR campaign to alert producers that the program is coming and they should begin stockpiling their plastics in the cleanest reasonable condition.
 - There is a current bid open to recyclers for new and novel techniques.
 - Once enough plastic has been accumulated then it will be given to the winning recycler.
 - The process may include precleaning, or sorting of heavily soiled materials. Some (possibly allot) of the sorted materials will be landfilled, "But at least that's better than burning and at least we will be trying something"