Controlling San Jose Scale on Apple With Early Season Insect Growth Regulator Applications



D. Combs & A. Agnello NYSAES/Cornell University

# Can we achieve season long control of SJS with early season applications?

Potential problems:

- 3 generations of SJS in NY
- Infests both tree bark and fruit



- Populations in research orchard are very high (UTC 78% fruit damage @ harvest 2013)
- Potential of infestation from untreated areas in research orchard
  Every other row left unsprayed as border trees/insect refuge



# Trial Design

- Applications made with air-blast equipment @ 100 gpa
- High gallon/A for bare trees to ensure coverage
- Replicated 3x in RCB design
- Treatments did not receive any other insecticide applications
- Applications were made at either 'delayed dormant' or 'pink' against overwintering 'black cap' stage
- Assessments made before and after applications and through out growing season
- 1<sup>st</sup> year wood examined under scope before apps to determine overwintering population survival
- Several wood samples taken after apps to determine efficacy



Fruit damage assessments were made after the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> summer generations had emerged, as well as at fruit harvest

## Treatments

- Esteem 0.86 EC
  - Applied at 'pink' (13 May)
  - 16.0 oz/A
  - Active ingredient Pyriproxyfen

## • <u>Centaur WDG</u>

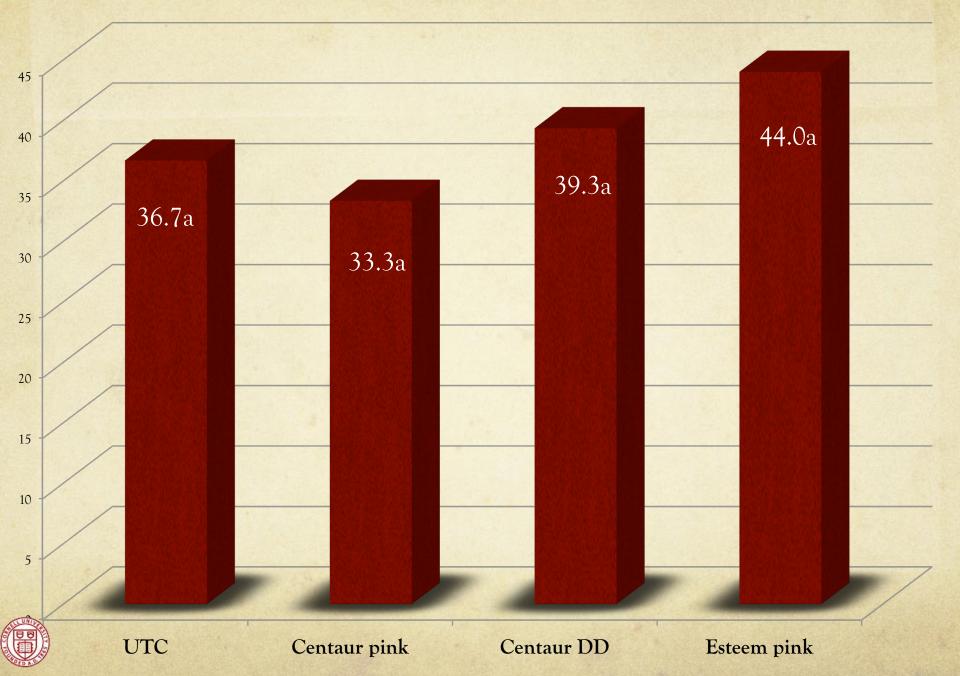
- Applied at 'delayed dormant' (24 Apr) and 'pink' (13 May)
- Both treatments 34.5 oz/A
- Active ingredient Buprofezin
- Untreated Check



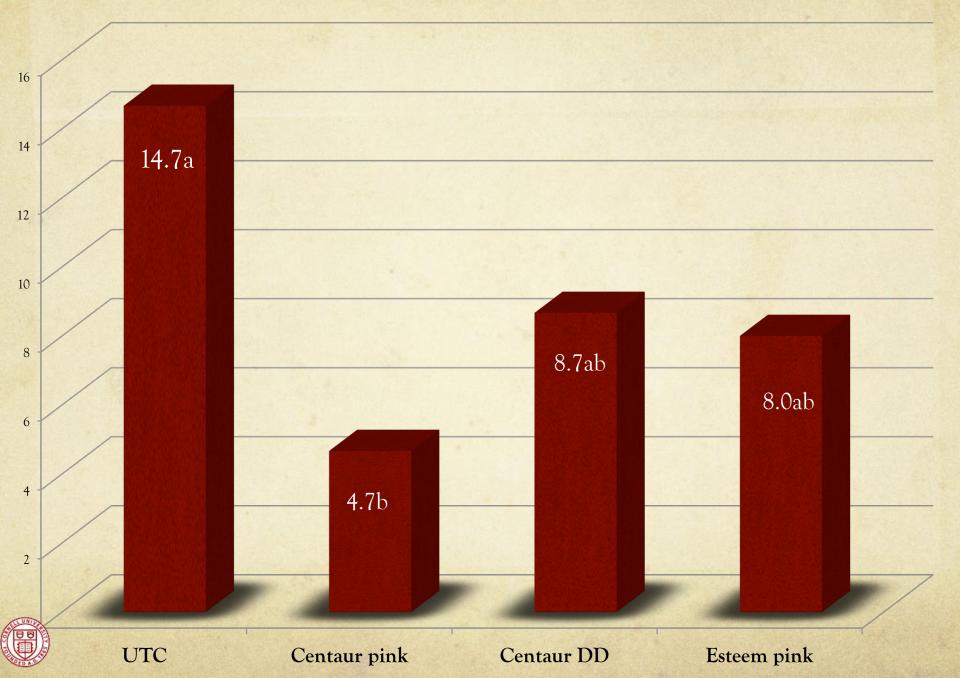
0,86 EC INSECT GROWTH REGULATOR



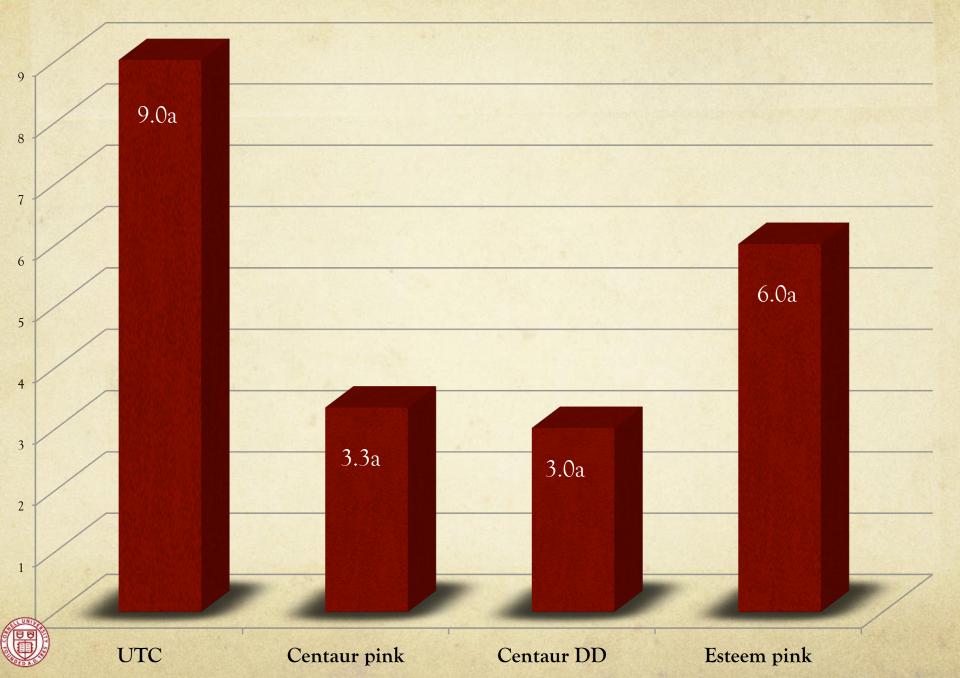
#### 1st Yr Wood Pre-Application % SJS Overwintering Survival 24 Apr



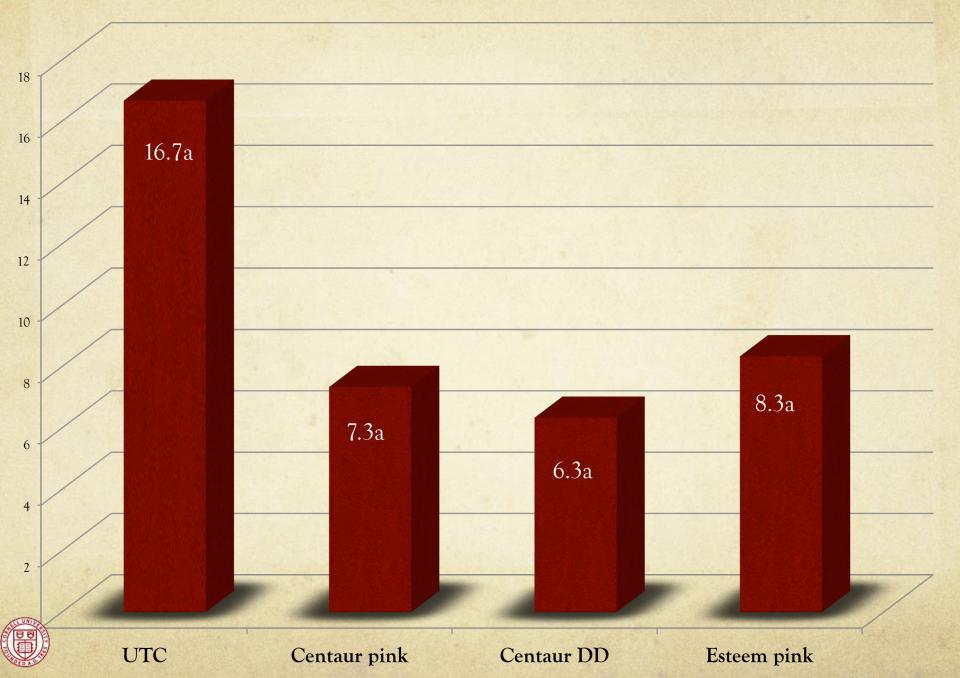
#### 1<sup>st</sup> Yr Wood Post application % SJS Survival 21 May



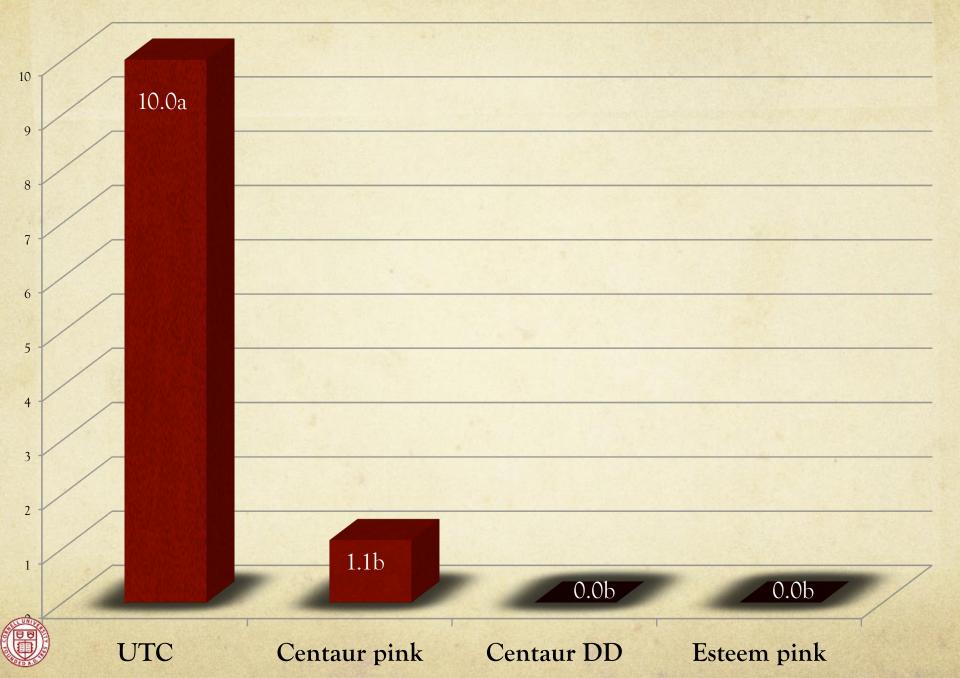
#### 1<sup>st</sup> Yr Wood Post Application % SJS Survival 29 May



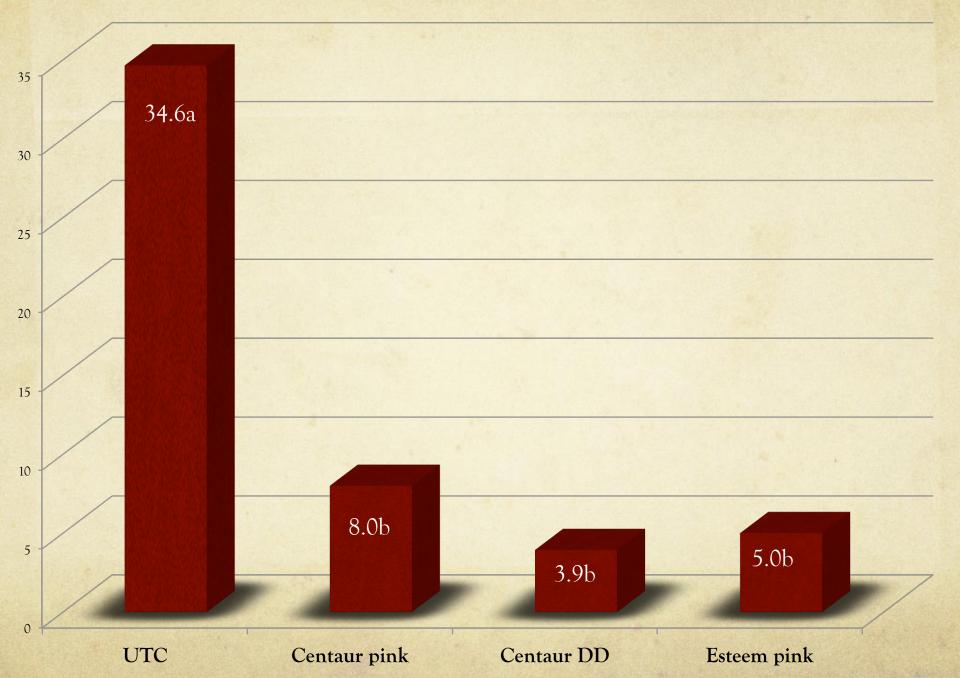
#### 1<sup>st</sup> Yr Wood Post Application % SJS Survival 4 Jun



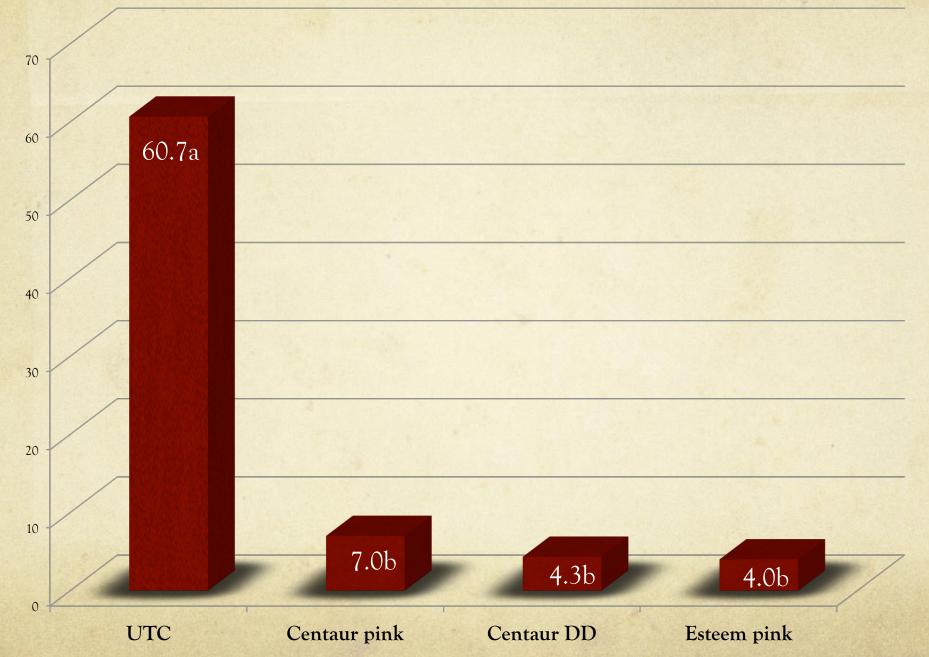
#### 1st Generation % SJS Fruit Damage 27 Jun



#### 2nd Generation % SJS Fruit Damage 29 Jul



#### % SJS Fruit Damage at Harvest 10 Sep



Can we achieve season long control of SJS with early season applications?

- Given the pressure in the research orchard Yes.
- Both Centaur timings (DD and pink) and the Esteem (pink) controlled SJS at acceptable levels through out the growing season
- However, very few differences among 1<sup>st</sup> yr wood samples
- All treatments were significantly better in controlling SJS for each date of fruit samples compared to the UTC
- No statistical differences among insecticide treatments in fruit samples



# One Step Further?

## • Fall IGR applications

- Against pre-overwintered 'black caps'
- Pre-application samples fall
- Post application samples spring
- Fruit evaluations summer and harvest

### Applications were applied 14 Oct

Treatment	Rate	% Fruit Damage at Application
Esteem 35WP	5.0 oz/A	39.0a
Centaur	34.5 oz/A	49.0a
UTC		51.0a



## Thanks

- Nichino America
- Valent
- Steve Gordner and Forrest Loeb summer assistants

