

ASSAIL'S (ACETAMIPRID) FIT INTO WASHINGTON'S TREE FRUIT IPM PROGRAM

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Assail (acetamiprid) was registered by EPA as an organophosphate replacement and a reduced risk pesticide in March of 2002. This insecticide belongs to the chloronicotine class of insecticides but unlike most other chloronicotines has activity against Lepidoptera. Evaluations of Assail against a variety of apple pests were conducted in Washington over the last two years. Assail was shown to have efficacy against codling moth, *Cydia pomonella*, but not other Lepidoptera pests, leafrollers and *Lacanobia subjuncta*. In a season long program, head to head against Guthion (azinphos methyl) or Imidan (phosmet), Assail provided suppression of codling moth equal to or slightly lower than these industry standards. Assail has also been shown to have activity against other apple pests including, *Campylomma verbasci*, apple aphid (*Aphis pomi*), and white apple leafhopper (*Typhlocyba pomaria*). However, our evaluations exposed some issues with Assail that could jeopardize its utility in apple IPM programs. When used as a 2-spray program for apple aphid or a 4-spray program for codling moth control, Assail treatments consistently had higher spider mites densities and lower predatory mite, *Galandromus occidentalis*, densities than the untreated control or other pesticide treatments, including the organophosphates. The challenge is to learn how to use Assail in an apple IPM program without disrupting integrated mite control.