

Mating Disruption/SIR

**Evaluation Of Puffer® CM:
A Release Device Of Pheromone to Control Codling Moth on Apple and Walnut in Italy**

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Abstract: Different techniques have been developed to achieve pheromone-mediated mating disruption (MD) of Codling moth (CM), by treating orchards with hand-applied product or by sprayable formulations. In Trentino Alto Adige (north/east Italy), MD has been applied successfully (22,500 Ha, i.e. 81% of the apple area) to control CM in heavily infested areas; on the contrary in areas with low pressure of the pest (hilly areas), usually less pesticides are applied and pheromone applications were considered economically not convenient. Inconsistent results were obtained when either hand-applied or sprayable mating disruption pheromones were applied in high canopy (6 meter) walnut. A new pheromone-based control technique, called Puffers® CM, has been recently proposed and it is under evaluation by FEM-IASMA. Nine experimental trials, five on apple and four on walnut have been carried out over two years in order to evaluate the performance of Puffer® in an wide growing areas (20-100 Ha/plot). Puffers® performed extremely well, leading to an almost high codling moth catch inhibition and to a low fruit damage situation both on apple and walnut.