SWD Day Neutral Strawberries and Silver Reflective Mulch

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SWD Background

- Most (all) Know About SWD

- Small Fruits
  - Blackberry
  - Fall Raspberry
  - Blueberries

- Tree Fruits
  - Cherries
  - Stone fruits (Plums, Peaches)
**What About Strawberries?**

- **June Bearing**
  - Short Season
  - Fewer Available Fruit
  - Lower susceptibility to SWD

- **Day Neutral**
  - Long Season
  - Similarities to Fall Raspberries
  - Positive SWD Samples in 2012
ABOUT THE EXPERIMENT

- Primary Interest Reflective Silver Mulch
  - Successful Onion Thrips
  - Decided to Broaden Experiment
  - Mulch and Weed Study

- Laura McDermott and I
  - Wal-Mart CARS Grant
  - Not Funded
  - Conducted Limited Trial
**Experimental Design**

- **Replicated Trial**
  - 3 Treatments, 3 Reps
  - 127-152 cm Treatment Area
  - 2 Locations

- **Monitoring**
  - CV Yeast Combination Trap
  - Collected 10 Fruit Weekly

- **SWD Confirmation**
  - Adults and Fruit Microscope
  - Incubated Fruit
**RESULTS**

Total Mean SWD Adults

Lower Capture Mulches

Mean Infested Fruit

0 Found in Silver
RESULTS

Mean Number Eggs/Fruit
Lower Levels in Mulches

Mean Number Larvae/Fruit
Mulches Beneficial
Fewer Larvae in Silver
**Future Research**

- **Another Experiment**
  - 2013 Data Limited But Promising
  - More Robust Sampling
  - Mulches (Silver, White)

- **Another Grant**
  - Useful Feedback CARS
  - SWD Not Going Away
  - Data Collected as Support
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Laura McDermott
  - My First Grant
  - Enthusiastic About Project

- HVL Entomology
  - Statistics/Experimental Design
  - Processing Samples
  - Love of SWD

- Growers
  - Upstate Farms Red Hook
  - Samascott Orchards Kinderhook
Apple Machine

Fresh apples grown by the Horticulture Grad Students & Cornell Orchards