



Current as of April 14, 2011<sup>1</sup>

## Spinosad – What it is and Where to Buy it!

Spinosad is an organic insecticide produced from a naturally occurring soil organism, an actinomycete named *Saccharopolyspora spinosa*. This material is very effective in preventing damage to apples and pears caused by the codling moth, damage to cherries caused by the Western Cherry Fruit Fly, and damage to peach and apricots caused by peach twig borer.

In the Grand Valley sprays for the codling moth and western cherry fruit fly are typically applied in mid-May. Sprays in the Delta and Montrose areas are typically one to two weeks later. These sprays will need to be repeated every 7 days until the insect of concern is no longer laying eggs; this will depend on the number of generations of the insect.

When apply a spray to control these insects will be announced in a timely manner on my Facebook account at <http://facebook.com/Curtis.Swift1> and posted on my web page at <http://WesternSlopeGardening.org> . You are also welcome to call the Master Gardener desk in Grand Junction at 970 244-1836 to obtain this information.

As with any insecticides, whether synthetic or organic, be sure to follow the directions on the product label. Pay attention to the time required between the time of your last application and when you can harvest.

Homeowner products containing Spinosad are typically labeled for use on fruits, vegetables, berries, citrus, grapes, nuts, and ornamentals. These products include:

Captain Jack's Deadbug Concentrate,  
Natural Guard Spinosad Insecticide (an RTU product<sup>ii</sup>), and  
Fertilome's Borer, Bagworm, Tent Caterpillar and Leafminer Spray.

Garden Centers that carry one or more of these products include:

In Grand Junction –

Bookcliff Gardens, 755 26 Road (North 1st at I-70) Grand Junction, Colorado  
81506 - 242-7766

Desert Bloom Hydroponics, 445 Pitkin Avenue, Grand Junction, Colorado - 245-  
6427

Meadowlark Gardens, 2259 Broadway, Grand Junction, CO - 241-6003

Valley Grown Nursery, 680 24 1/2 Rd, Grand Junction, CO - 245-2634

In Delta –

The Garden Center, 1970 S Main St, Delta, CO 81416 - 874-9009

In Montrose -

San Juan Gardens, 12225 6530 Rd, Montrose, CO - 249-2052

Camelot Gardens, 16612 S Townsend Ave, Montrose, CO - 249-6109

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<sup>i</sup> Garden Centers not listed either did not handle a Spinosad product or did not answer their phone when called on April 14.

<sup>ii</sup> RTU products are premixed with water. The other products are concentrates.