Cicada Notes

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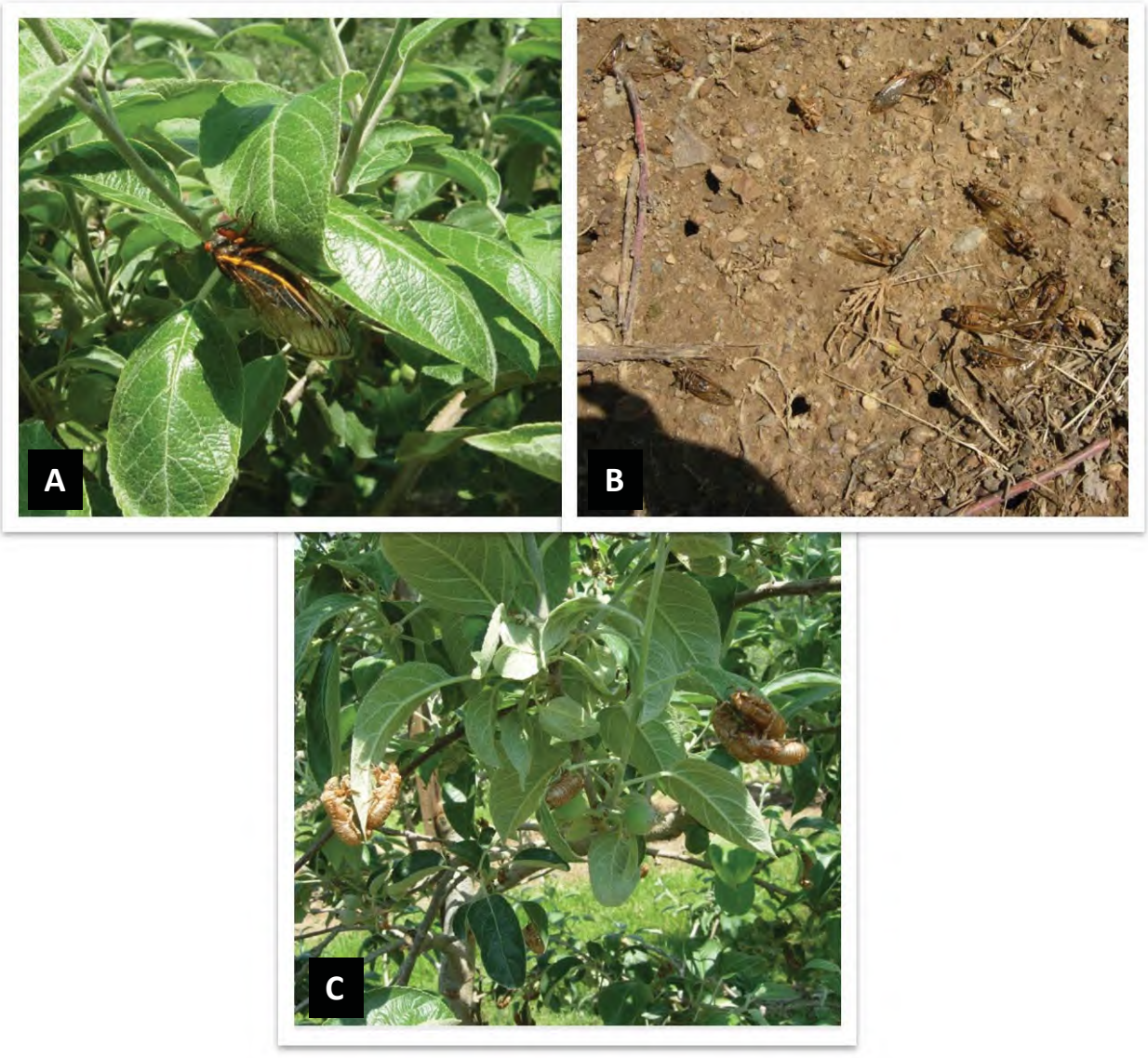
The first of 17-year periodical cicadas emerged in apple and peach orchards on a farm in Morris County on May 24, 2013. Appearance was pretty spontaneous and in the next 2 days adult numbers were very high.

The grower sprayed on May 26 with a generic lambda-cyhalothrin (a pyrethroid insecticide - Grizzly, 5 oz/acre).

Counts taken on May 31 indicated about a 99% kill. Only single adults (A) were seen in the canopy or flying around trees. All other cicadas were dead on the ground (B). No eggs had been laid, since the treatment came soon after emergence. Many cast skins remained are on the ground, trunks, or leaves (C).

The orchard is partially surrounded by woods, which may have provided an additional non-sprayed host habitat. The cicada's most common habitat is woods/forests. Additional treatments may be needed in some cases, especially along border rows.

Photo credits: Atanas Atanassov.



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