SIMULATION MODEL FOR SLASH PINE SEED ORCHARDS

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Faced with the task of formulating pest management programs, most orchard managers rely on general theories that may not actually provide the answers for problems unique to their seed orchards. One management tool--a simulation model--is now available. We developed the model for slash pine seed orchards to estimate gains or losses likely to result from specific pest management strategies.

The model runs on IBM-compatible personal computers.   It employs self-installation and configuration procedures for the convenience of the user.   The model is menu-driven for ease of use.   Information and reports appear on screen. Printed reports are also available.

The model can use specific orchard survey data. It contains default values for damage incurred by female strobili and seed factors and for the efficacies of different pesticide treatments. Any of these default values can be changed to conform with expected values for a particular orchard. The user can rapidly compare the results of two or more pest management strategies.