55 McDougal Road, Neerim South, 3831, Victoria.

Ph: (03)56281507 Mbl: 0417 535 917

Web: www.dialatree.com.au Email: admin@blerick.com.au

## **Curly Leaf Control on Peach and Nectarine**

Curly leaf is caused by the fungus *Taphrina deformans*. It causes large ugly red blisters on the new season leaves. The leaves are often so badly damaged as to fall off in a wind and weaken the tree. New trees in difficult conditions can be set back by this loss of new leaf. Many established trees can tolerate Curly Leaf and still grow well and have good crops. Infected fruit have a raised reddened scab but such fruit often ripen to be quite edible.

The fungus becomes active in spring with separation of the bud scales as the buds swell. Therefore control requires that a fungicide be applied to the tree before the bud scales separate. Spray twice in early August.

Several copper containing fungicides are available in hardware stores for Curly Leaf control. Examples are Kocide, Copper Oxychloride, Bordeaux Mixture and Yates Fungus Fighter.

