

Salinity Impacts on Pecan Trees

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SALINITY AFFECTS

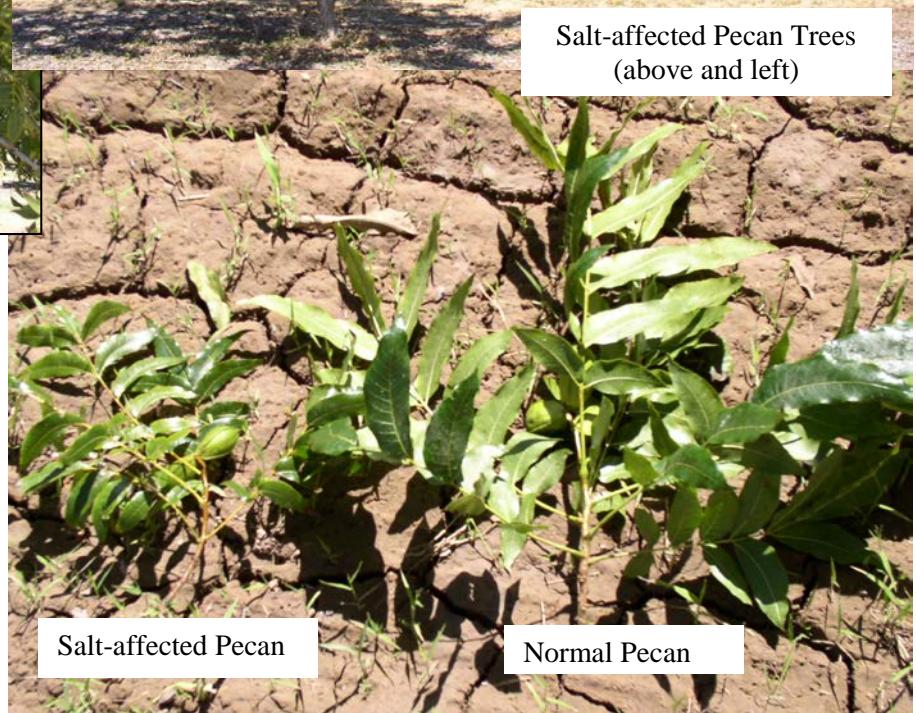
Pecan trees are susceptible to salt damage, especially to sodium (Na) and chloride (Cl). Sodium-affected trees show leaf tip-burn, whereas chloride-affected trees exhibit extensive foliage burn. The photographs shown here are typical cases of Na-affected trees in as little as one year after irrigation with salty ground water. These trees will defoliate sooner than others, and bud slower in the spring.



Salt-affected Pecan Trees
(above and left)

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

If you have the choice, avoid use of salty ground water for irrigating pecans. Otherwise, blend salty ground water with project water which is generally less salty. If possible, the higher salinity ground water could instead be used to irrigate cotton which is more tolerant to salts. Managing soils to maximize water infiltration and drainage will also help to reduce damage from salts.



For additional details refer to “**Guidelines for Developing Soil and Water Management Programs**” by Dr. Seiichi Miyamoto.