

August 27, 2004

Kern/Tulare

# GWSS Update



A project of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Task Force of Kern and Tulare Counties. Participants: Agricultural Commissioner's Offices of Kern and Tulare Counties, California Department of Food and Agriculture, University of California-Cooperative Extension, U.S. Department of Agriculture (APHIS and ARS Divisions).

**Contact:**  
Don Luvisi  
Project coordinator  
(661) 868-6226  
dluvisi@bak.rr.com

Catherine Merlo, Editor  
(661) 588-0561  
cmm55@aol.com

**Web site:**  
[http://cekern.ucdavis.edu/Custom\\_Program444/](http://cekern.ucdavis.edu/Custom_Program444/)

## Follow correct PD sampling protocol

This is the time to be alert and on the lookout for suspect vines since hot weather will intensify Pierce's disease (PD) symptoms. We will take samples for lab analysis from now until the middle of November. Please follow the protocol below because the organization of samples and turnaround time for test results depend on these steps:

1. Sample each vine separately.
2. Mark each suspect/sampled vine in the field with flag tape or paint so you will know where to return when test results are received.
3. Pull six to eight leaves and petioles from symptomatic shoots.
4. Remove leaf blades and place only the petioles in a labeled bag (plastic is preferred).
5. Bring samples to the UCCE office (1031 South Mount Vernon Avenue in Bakersfield) immediately or place in an ice chest or refrigerator until you can drop them off. Do not let samples bake in the sun or your vehicle.
6. Fill out the 2004-2005 *Pierce's Disease Lab Form* provided at the counter and give samples and lab sheet to our office staff. Indicate that the samples should be refrigerated.
7. Be complete when filling out lab form. This form is sent with your samples to CDFA and is also what you will receive back with results via fax for your records.
8. Take an extra (blank) copy of the



lab sheet with you so that you may fill it out prior to dropping off additional samples.

Expect about a one-week turnaround time for test results. We would like you to bring samples in by Wednesday morning so that they may be shipped that afternoon. Samples brought in later in the week will be held over the weekend in cold storage and shipped out on Monday.

It is imperative that vines are removed immediately following a positive test result to reduce further spread in the vineyard. Please take advantage of this service because it is currently provided to you at no expense.

—Jennifer Hashim,  
University of California-Cooperative  
Extension, Viticulture Farm Advisor  
[jmhashim@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jmhashim@ucdavis.edu)

*This vine's uneven wood maturity and persistent petioles reveal symptoms of Pierce's disease. (Photo: Jennifer Hashim)*

## Kern-Tulare GWSS Task Force to meet Sept. 15

The Kern-Tulare Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Task Force will meet Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2004, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the Kern County Agricultural Commissioner's Office in Bakersfield.

## GWSS recently discovered in Hawaii

Several specimens of the glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWSS) were discovered in a residential area on the Hawaiian island of Oahu in May.

No sharpshooter infestations have yet been found on the neighboring islands, according to a July pest advisory from the State of Hawaii Department of Agriculture.

Likewise, no Pierce's disease symptoms have been observed on any of the

host plants found in Hawaii.

Apparently, the disease-causing bacterium (*Xylella fastidiosa*) did not enter the state of Hawaii along with the sharpshooter, the advisory reports. GWSS specimens sent to California after the initial discovery tested negative for the bacterium.

For more information, visit <http://www.hawaiiag.org/hdoa/npa.htm>.