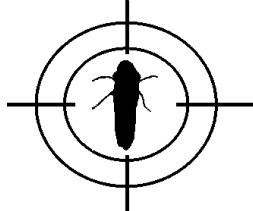


Kern-Tulare

GWSS Update



*A project of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Task Force of Kern and Tulare Counties.
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Tulare County treats urban areas for GWSS; more treatments planned with new GWSS finds in citrus

This has been a very busy week for the GWSS/PD project in Tulare County. We started treating the Porterville Developmental Center (a 40-acre complex adjacent to citrus groves) with Merit. The low shrubs around the facility had already been treated with Sevin, but the larger trees were still harboring GWSS.

Starting July 15, a series of trap finds and subsequent delimitation surveys south of Ducor led to the conclusion that most of the citrus groves east of Highway 65 from Avenue 56 to the County Line have low level infestations of GWSS.

Additionally, trap finds have been made in the area east and northeast of Strathmore (primarily along Road 256 at the edge of the foothills), one to two miles west of the Magnolia Quarantine Area, and southeast of Terra Bella (again, adjacent to the foothills).

All of these new trap finds were made in oranges and lemons. As yet, we have not had any finds in our grape/citrus interface trapping routes. Delimitation surveys are underway in all of these new find areas.

Some grower contacts have been made, and voluntary treatments are being conducted or contemplated. As the picture becomes clearer, more contacts will be made and knock-down treatments applied. Growers are being asked to note on the NOI and subsequent invoices that GWSS was the reason for the applications in case funding for reimbursement is found at a later date.

It is our hope that a coordinated effort to control GWSS in Tulare County can be conducted in concert with the actions taken in Kern County this fall.

— Dennis Haines, agricultural biologist, Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

Program development underway north of Bakersfield; coordinator

Larry Liggett hired

Treatment for GWSS is underway in the Highway 65 corridor, and many properties have also been treated in the Delano area. Plans are underway to treat a one-quarter-mile buffer between grapes and citrus groves north of Seventh Standard Road.

Because this is a large undertaking, a northern coordinator for this project has been brought on board.

Larry Liggett, a longtime Bakersfield resident, has been hired by the GWSS Task Force of Kern and Tulare Counties to coordinate the GWSS program north of Seventh Standard Road.

He will begin work Monday, July 22. We're looking forward to having him be part of the team.

— Don Luvisi

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