

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).

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

## California plant nurseries advise Arizona to make GWSS eradication a priority

As the Arizona Department of Agriculture begins eradication efforts against glassy-winged sharpshooters (GWSS) found in Cochise County since late August, plant nursery operators in California have some advice for their counterparts in the Grand Canyon State.

"It's important to point out that the disruption to the nursery industry by this pest is vastly more than commonly realized," notes Robert Crudup, president of Valley Crest Nursery in California's Ventura County.

"In California, the nursery industry is spending millions of dollars each year to contain the pest," adds Crudup, who also chairs the Nursery Subcommittee of California's PD/GWSS Task Force. "While there is no telling how the GWSS entered that part of Arizona, eradication has to be a priority, or nurseries in Arizona will begin to carry the same economic impact as the nurseries in southern California, where

eradication is no longer an option."

In Arizona, GWSS treatments continue in about a quarter-mile radius of the plant nursery in Sierra Vista, where 28 GWSS adults and four egg masses had been detected as of Wednesday. The Arizona Department of Agriculture also has placed 719 traps up to 1½ miles from the initial find.

"We are very concerned about GWSS in Arizona," says Larry Woods, president-elect of the 375-member Arizona Nursery Association. "We're not only concerned because of its close proximity to the majority of Arizona's vineyards, but also because we don't want to have to implement the extra procedures, like spraying and certification, that California nurseries do."

"It's curious that GWSS hasn't been  
*(continued on page 2)*



Four GWSS egg masses and 28 adults have been detected so far in Arizona.

## PD Research Symposium set for Dec. 5-7

The 2005 Pierce's Disease Research Symposium will be held Dec. 5-7, 2005, at the Marriott San Diego Hotel and Marina in San Diego, Calif.

For more information, contact Athar Tariq at (916) 322-2804 or [atarig@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:atarig@cdfa.ca.gov).

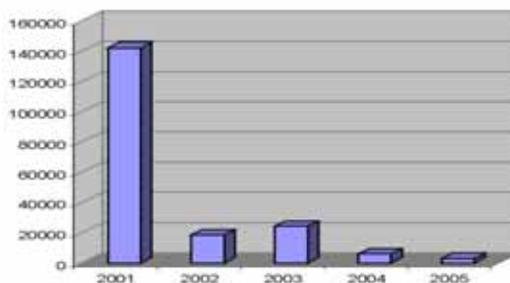
## GWSS charts tell story of success in Kern, Tulare

The successful GWSS suppression efforts in both Kern and Tulare Counties are attributed to the absolute team effort that goes into the area-wide programs. We have such great partnerships between federal, state and county officials to get the job done right, but we wouldn't have succeeded to the extent we have without two major components: 1) the treatment coordinators, who, in my opinion, do the most difficult of jobs, and 2) the cooperation and willingness of the citrus industry to put on the treatments recommended by the program. There are so many pieces of the puzzle that have to be in place in order to make an effort like this succeed. We've got an outstanding team that I feel lucky to be a part of.

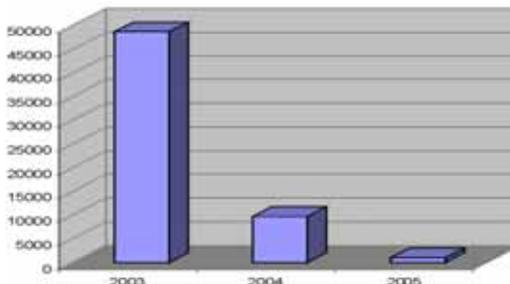
—Beth Stone-Smith,

GWSS Area-wide Program Director, USDA

Kern County GWSS Total Count by Year



Tulare County GWSS Total Count by Year





## Kern-Tulare GWSS Update

### California plant nurseries advise Arizona to make GWSS eradication a priority

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found in Arizona before," says George Gutman, general manager of technical and regulatory services for Irvine-based Bordiers Nursery. "I would guess they've had it for some time."

Cheryl Goar, executive director of the Arizona Nursery Association, said the organization was pleased with the way the Arizona Department of Agriculture has handled the situation. "We have encouraged the department to see what treatment options there are," Goar says.



Several California nursery operators pointed to GWSS-fighting materials that have been developed in California. "These have been highly effective and should be given a chance in Arizona," says Gutman.

Last spring, California launched a pilot nursery inspection program that tests the success of a single treatment of a chemical that kills GWSS nymphs as they emerge from egg masses on nursery plants. The treatment uses either carbaryl, known by the trade name of Sevin®, or fenpropathrin, known as Tame®.

"That's key to eradicating or eliminat-

ing GWSS egg masses at nurseries," says Gary Hayakawa of Three Stars Nursery in California's Orange County.

Katie Decker of the Arizona Department of Agriculture said a non-restricted use product was being used to treat the nursery and nearby residences for GWSS. The material was not carbaryl or fenpropathrin.

Arizona has several hundred traps placed throughout the state to monitor for the sharpshooter. To date, Decker says, GWSS have been found only in Sierra Vista, located in the southeast corner of the state.

#### Can GWSS survive in Arizona?

After eradicating GWSS in the Sierra Vista area, the state must advance its understanding of the pest's ability to survive Arizona's extreme temperatures, says Woods, who owns Rillito Nursery and Garden Center, a retail distributor in Tucson.

"The next phase will probably be looking at whether GWSS can sustain life here on a prolonged basis," Woods says. "It may not survive in the Sierra Vista area, which gets snow in the winter. Can it take the low humidity and 115-degree temperatures of a Phoenix summer? That research hasn't been done yet."

Funding for that research will have to be worked out, Woods adds.

—Catherine Merlo

### Kern-Tulare Table Grape Control District seeks manager

The Kern-Tulare County Table Grape Pest and Disease Control District is seeking a district manager to oversee activities for the newly formed organization.

Salary range is dependant on qualifications. Start date is the first quarter of 2006.

Under the direction of the district's board of directors, the manager will administer all facets of the district's programs, which include working with government agencies and growers to support the glassy-winged sharpshooter and Pierce's disease control programs.

The manager will monitor research and conduct outreach and education programs. In addition, the manager will play a key role in investigating and developing response strategies to any new pests and diseases that may threaten the table grape industry.

Candidates should have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in agricultural or biological sciences. Experience should include at least two years of experience in a related field. The individual should be self-directed and self-motivated and willing to travel. Experience with computer programs such as Word, Excel, Arc-View and GIS is valuable.

The ability to write grant requests, evaluate research proposals and communicate well is important. The candidate should have the ability to organize, develop and administer short and long range plans, establish and maintain effective working relationships with growers, researchers and government officials at many levels.

Send a cover letter, resume and references to:

Kern County Table Grape Pest and Disease Control District  
P.O. 628, Delano CA 93216-0628

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Robert Crudup,  
Valley Crest Nursery  
Ventura County,  
California