

**Kern-Tulare**

# **GWSS Update**



*A project of the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Task Force of Kern and Tulare Counties. Participants: Agricultural Commissioner 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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**Web sites:** [www.kernag.com/kpp.htm](http://www.kernag.com/kpp.htm) and [www.co.kern.ca.us/farm/luvisi.htm](http://www.co.kern.ca.us/farm/luvisi.htm)

**October 6, 2001**

## Citrus grove treatments for GWSS range from single knockdown to coordinated area-wide efforts

With the citrus harvest nearing, one grower at a recent meeting was concerned about controlling GWSS in his grove. A specific question was: How long after treatment for GWSS will the grove remain free of GWSS?

Based upon experience from the General Beale Road Pilot Project, the answer is in two parts:

1. If the grove is small, not bordered by other groves infested with GWSS and harvested within a short period of time after treatment, a single knockdown treatment should be effective for three to five days. GWSS will begin to migrate in from other untreated areas after this time
2. If the grove is large and to be harvested over a period of several days or weeks and is surrounded by other groves infested with GWSS, then a coordinated area-wide effort would be in order. This would mean coordination with the neighboring producers.

Zero tolerance for GWSS when shipping fruit from infested to non-infested areas will require a management program for GWSS.

When treating, a plan should be developed to minimize GWSS movement from the treated area to untreated areas. Start at the edge of the field and work in towards the center or start at one side and work towards open land or non-host crops.

— Don Luvisi

## Important bulk citrus movement meeting set for Oct. 18

The Kern County Agricultural Commissioner's Office will hold a bulk citrus movement meeting Oct. 18 at 9 a.m. at its offices at 1001 S. Mt. Vernon Avenue in Bakersfield.

Regulations and requirements for moving bulk citrus this season will be explained. There will also be updates on the glassy-winged sharpshooter program in Kern County, including the results of the Highway 65 survey.

Who should attend?

- Growers who will be shipping citrus
- Packinghouse representatives
- Pest control operators who work in citrus
- Pest control advisors and managers of commercial citrus groves
- County personnel in destination counties
- State personnel in the GWSS program
- Members of the Kern/Tulare GWSS-PD Task Force

After the meeting, Kern County biologists will be on hand to issue compliance agreements, sign up growers and issue tags.

— *Kern County Agricultural Commissioner's Office*

## Adult GWSS not in egg-laying mode; nymphs scarce

Data from field sampling and observations indicate that GWSS adults are laying very few eggs at this point in time.

In addition, very few nymphs are still being found, and most of them are in the late fourth or fifth instar.

The current population of adults will be those that over-winter and begin laying eggs again next spring. This suggests that GWSS adults undergo some type of reproductive diapause, and this facet of the insect's biology may potentially be exploited in various management strategies.

— *USDAscarce*

## Tulare County continues GWSS survey

Tulare County is continuing its fall survey of Porterville for GWSS. The survey is expected to be completed early next week, and between 500 and 600 positive properties are anticipated. Treatments with Sevin are scheduled to begin Oct. 9. The Tulare team will then move its survey to Terra Bella and Magnolia.

— *Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner's Office*

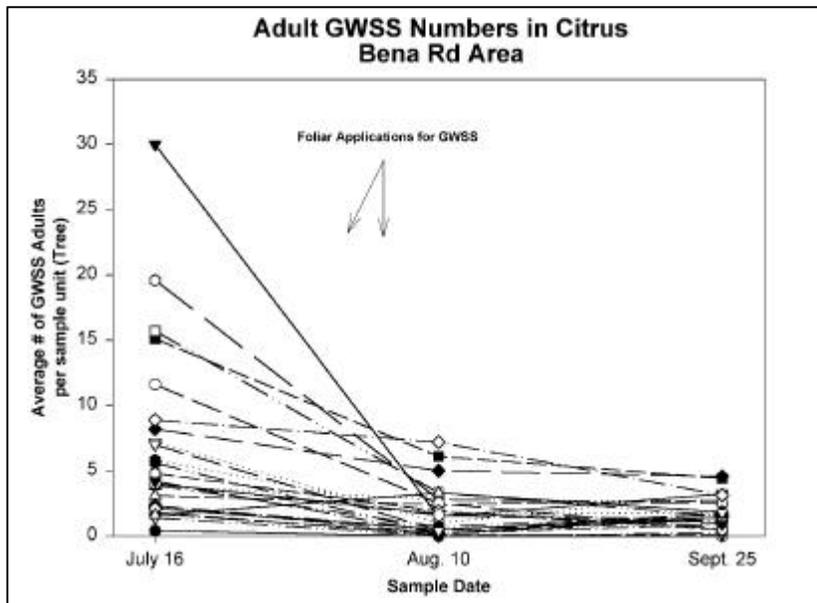
## Bena Road citrus groves to receive second treatment

USDA field crews have completed sampling all of the citrus groves within the Bena Road area. The results indicate that 26 of the 43 groves in that area remain above the action threshold of one adult GWSS per sample unit (tree).

The numbers of groves that will require treatment are down considerably over those that were treated with foliar applications at the end of July. Seven of the 33 groves that were previously treated all below the action threshold and will not be treated for GWSS adults. Growers are currently being

contacted and asked to treat again if adult GWSS exceed the action threshold. As before, growers will have several choices of insecticides to choose from.

The graph shows significant reductions in GWSS numbers in citrus groves in the Bena Road area since the organized treatment effort began. Each symbol on the graph represents a single grove. The average, considering only groves that still have treatable levels of GWSS, is about 2.25 adults per tree, with a range from a low of 1.0 to a high of 7.25.



Overall, the number of GWSS adults and nymphs is low in that area as compared to numbers seen in July. However, the goal of the second foliar application is to reduce the standing adult portion of the population that will overwinter.

With the combined effects of this fall foliar application and overwintering mortality, the numbers of adults that survive until spring should be much lower. Comparison of the methods used in General Beale Road area and those used in the Bena Road area should provide valuable information in developing area-wide GWSS management strategies.

Finally, we ask growers to let Russel Carlson know when they have made the application, and when the re-entry interval will expire, so that we can collect post-treatment efficacy data. This helps us minimize the potential for GWSS movement between treated and non-treated areas, which affects the accuracy of the data we are collecting.

— USDA

## View sticky-trap maps online

Growers can check the Kern Ag Web site to view past and current sticky trap maps for the pilot project area. You can find them at [www.kernag.com/kpp/maps.htm](http://www.kernag.com/kpp/maps.htm).

The sticky trap map can be a useful tool in focusing attention on problematic areas, but direct sampling should be the deciding factor before management decisions are made.

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