

Sept. 30, 2005

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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Arizona ag concerns rise after GWSS found

Eight glassy-winged sharpshooters and two GWSS egg masses have been discovered in Sierra Vista, Ariz., raising concerns over their potential to harm key portions of the state's agricultural industry.

The sharpshooters were first detected Aug. 31 when a male and female GWSS were found in a sticky trap that had been placed in nursery stock. Although additional GWSS were later found, none have been detected beyond a one-mile radius of the nursery, according to Katie Decker of Arizona's Department of Agriculture.

Sierra Vista is located in Cochise County in southeast Arizona, less than 20 miles from the Mexican border. The area



is Arizona's major grape-growing region.

The pest stands to threaten the state's \$18 million vineyard and wine-producing industry, as well as the oleander, one of Arizona's key landscaping ornamentals.

The initial GWSS discovery was made in one of 800 traps that had been set out throughout the state to monitor the pest.

An additional 140 traps were placed in key areas around the Sierra Vista nursery Sept. 8 to determine the magnitude of the problem, the Arizona Department of Agriculture said.

Since Monday, agriculture inspectors have been looking for egg masses to further determine the size of the infestation and better prepare for control programs.



Arizona officials don't yet know how or from where the GWSS arrived in the state's southeast corner, home to Arizona's major grape-growing region. (Photo: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service)

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

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.