

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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## Pierce's Disease monitoring project moves north to Delano and Highway 65 sites

During the last few months, the UCCE office in Bakersfield has been conducting a Pierce's Disease (PD) survey effort across much of the county.

We have had a tremendous amount of interest and support on this project, and I would like to personally thank Kern growers and PCAs for all of their help.

The survey effort has provided us with important details about PD hot spots and disease development.

To date, the 2002 project has covered more than 150 blocks (3,000+ acres) of nearly all of the major table grape varieties and several winegrape varieties grown in Kern County.

**Case study treatment.** Each individual block surveyed and sampled will be treated as a case study. We intend to follow them for three consecutive years to help researchers understand factors that influence disease spread and control.

Profiles are being created on each vineyard. Each will include GPS coordinates, variety, vine age, irrigation regime, proximity to other host crops of GWSS and *Xylella fastidiosa*, pesticide use information when available, and presence and population levels of GWSS.

**Sampling procedure.** In each vineyard, every vine in every row is observed and any vine showing PD-like symptoms is sampled for tissue analysis.

Samples are sent to the CDFA Plant Pest Diagnostics Lab to confirm presence of *Xylella fastidiosa* (the bacterium that causes PD), with an enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). If a sample is returned with a positive test result for *Xylella*, the grower/PCA is notified by phone and all results are faxed to the respective office.

(continued on page 2)

## Test results on new GWSS chemicals due soon

University of California and USDA scientists recently initiated a test plot in the Edison area near Bakersfield to evaluate new chemicals for control of GWSS. Complete results will be available in a month.

Materials tested were Assail®, Provado® and an experimental compound, Actera®.

Tests included applications by air, ground dilute at 150 gallons per acre, and concentrate at 50 gallons per acre.

The purpose is to evaluate applications methods and materials to give the widest range of alternatives for GWSS management during the 2003 season.

## Table shows GWSS urban numbers rise during summer

The following table is a summary of the Bakersfield trapping data collected for the months of June through September 2002. The majority of GWSS were trapped in northeast Bakersfield along

the ag/urban interface, although a small number of GWSS have also been trapped along Highway 178 in East Bakersfield and along Highway 99 in Central and Southwest Bakersfield.

Bakersfield Urban GWSS Finds  
 June - September 2002

	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
WEEK 1	8	300	162	146
WEEK 2	85	273	188	58
WEEK 3	298	186	218	56
WEEK 4	119	125	161	51
Monthly totals	510	884	729	311

GRAND TOTAL: 2,434



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(continued from page 1)

It is requested that diseased vines be removed ASAP to prevent further spread within the vineyard.

**Moving north.** Thus far, we have finished up much of the southern part of the county and are now moving our survey crews north to the Delano, Richgrove and Ducor areas. We are focusing our survey efforts on vineyards in close proximity to citrus groves or where GWSS has been discovered.

Data collected will be used to create baseline information on disease incidence in northern Kern and southern

Tulare counties. This information is critical because these areas currently at risk for GWSS establishment.

If you have any questions regarding PD identification, sampling protocol and/or lab analysis, or would like more information about how to participate in this year's PD project in the north Kern/Delano region, which provides no cost monitoring of vineyards by a crew of trained personnel on ATVs, please call the UCCE office at (661) 868-6200. Ask for Murray.

— Jennifer Hashim  
UCCE Viticulture Farm Advisor

**“If you would like more information about how to participate in this year’s PD project in the north Kern/Delano region, which provides no cost monitoring of vineyards, please call the UCCE office at (661) 868-6200.”**

— Jennifer Hashim,  
UCCE Viticulture Farm Advisor

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