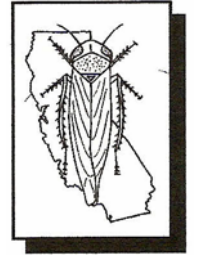


# BEET CURLY TOP VIRUS

# MONTHLY REPORT



## **CURLY TOP VIRUS CONTROL PROGRAM**

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Report for June, 2015

### **Program-wide notice**

- Roadsides and fallow fields were monitored for beetle leafhopper (BLH) populations throughout June.
- In general, BLH populations are declining as they scatter throughout the valley floor on widespread summer host plants. There were some fallow fields that had average BLH counts, but by the end of June, counts were low.
- Ground treatment was conducted in Fresno, Kern, and Kings Counties. A total of 1,360 gallons of mixed Malathion were used to treat fallow ground and roadside host weeds harboring BLH.
- **Remember, it is best to use an insecticide for BLH on any weedy areas, prior to disking. Disking and grazing, or using an herbicide, causes the beet leafhoppers to move.**

### **Fresno County**

- The Program was notified that several fallow fields were scheduled to be disked and construction to begin on a new solar farm by July 1<sup>st</sup>, in the Three Rocks area. BCTV personnel surveyed the fallow fields off of Manning Avenue and Highway 33 on June 8<sup>th</sup>. The fields had an abundance of BLH host plants, including goosefoot, *Bassia*, lambsquarters, and Russian thistle. BLH counts were on average 5-15 adult BLH and nymphs per 10 sweeps. Preparations were made and aerial treatment was conducted on June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> with 2,550 acres treated.
- The County was made aware of the BLH host weeds growing within the solar farms and under the panels. A County official inspected the solar farms within his district and notified the Program that they were clean. Other districts were going to do the same.
- Ground treatment was completed in the Five Points, Three Rocks, and Cantua Creek areas. Roadside hosts consisted of *Bassia*, goosefoot, Russian thistle, and mallow. Ground treatment was also conducted in Firebaugh and Mendota.
- Personnel observed an increase in BLH activity on roadside hosts as wheat fields were harvested and bailed. Initial counts were 2-4 BLH per 10 sweeps and increased to 5-15 BLH per 10 sweeps as wheat fields were mowed.
- A total of 560 gallons of mixed Malathion were used during the month of June and applied by a ground rig vehicle.
- Personnel will continue to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH populations as the Program begins to prepare for the fall spray campaign.

## Kern County

- Personnel continued to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH. Host weeds such as goosefoot, lambsquarters, and Russian thistle have been abundant along roadsides.
- A total of 240 gallons of mixed Malathion were used during the month of June and applied by a ground rig vehicle.
- Surveys through northwestern Kern County included Lerdo Highway east of Main Drain Road, Lost Hills Road north of Missouri Triangle, Highway 33 from Missouri Triangle north to Lerdo Highway, Belridge Oil Fields to Williams Lease Road north through Antelope Valley to Highway 46, and Highway 33 from Highway 46 south to Lerdo Highway. Russian thistle, lambsquarters, and some London rocket were patchy along the roadways and fields. Average BLH counts in these areas were 1-3 adult BLH per 10 sweeps.
- Two (2) BLH samples were submitted for virus analysis last month. Both samples were positive for curly top virus.
- Eight (8) symptomatic plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. Four (4) tomato, two (2) bean, one (1) melon, and one (1) pepper were sent for virus analysis. Two (2) tomato plants were positive for curly top virus. One (1) bean plant was positive for curly top virus. The melon, pepper, and second bean plant samples were negative for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH populations as the Program begins to prepare for the fall spray campaign.

## Kings County

- Personnel continued to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH. Host weeds such as goosefoot, Russian thistle, mallow, London rocket, *Bassia*, lambsquarters, prostrate pigweed and purslane were identified within fallow fields and along roadsides.
- A total of 560 gallons of mixed Malathion were used during the month of May and applied by a ground rig vehicle.
- Seven (7) symptomatic sugar beet plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. They were all positive for curly top virus.
- Two (2) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. Both were positive for curly top virus.
- Three (3) host weed samples were submitted for virus analysis. All three (3) were positive for curly top virus.
- Eleven (11) host weed samples were submitted for virus analysis last month. All of the samples were positive for curly top virus.
- Two (2) BLH samples were submitted for virus analysis last month. Both samples were positive for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH populations as the Program begins to prepare for the fall spray campaign.

## Merced County

- Personnel continued to monitor vegetation and BLH populations. Host weeds included mustard, *Bassia*, Russian thistle, prostrate pigweed, and lambsquarters along roadsides and within a few fields.
- Host weeds were sparse along Nees Avenue and Pole Line Road. BLH counts were minimal with an average of 2 BLH per 10 sweeps.
- Roadside host weeds along Whitworth Road and Cottonwood Road were sparse. BLH counts were minimal with an average of 2 BLH per 10 sweeps.
- Sixteen (16) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. Fifteen (15) were positive for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH populations as the Program begins to prepare for the fall spray campaign.

## Riverside/ Imperial County

- BLH and host weed survey took place the first week of June. BLH counts were minimal in all areas surveyed.
- Host plants were sparse and included mallow, *Bassia*, Russian thistle, prostrate pigweed, and goosefoot. BLH counts were 0-3 adults per sweep. Stressed goosefoot produced the highest BLH counts, with 30-50 adults and nymphs per sweep. The goosefoot was not abundant as it has been in past surveys for this time of year.
- Treatment is not recommended at this time for these counties. BCTV personnel will survey the areas again after the fall treatment campaign.
- One (1) host weed sample from each county was submitted for virus analysis. Both samples were positive for curly top virus.
- Three (3) BLH samples were obtained; one (1) sample from Riverside County and two (2) samples from Imperial County. All three (3) samples were positive for curly top virus.

## Sacramento Valley

- BCTV personnel surveyed throughout Sacramento Valley for BLH populations, host weeds and inspected tomato fields in the area for curly top virus damage. Overall, the incidence of curly top virus damage was minimal.
- Tomato fields in Willows and Colusa looked good and damage was minimal. Some roadsides had goosefoot, *Bassia*, Russian thistle, and London rocket. The most common roadside weeds were annual grasses. BLH counts were on average less than 1 BLH per 10 sweeps.
- Surveys in Williams to the northern portions of Dunnigan were conducted. Tomato fields looked good with minimal curly top damage. Roadside host weeds were limited and consisted mostly of annual grasses. Sweep counts were on average less than 1 BLH per 10 sweeps.
- Surveys were conducted from Dunnigan to Woodland, with Highway 16 as the cutoff. Tomato fields looked good and overall curly top virus damage was minimal. Roadside hosts were limited and consisted mostly of annual grasses. Sweep counts were minimal, with an average of less than one BLH per 10 sweeps.
- Surveys were conducted in Woodland, West Sacramento, and Plainfield. Tomato fields looked good with minimal curly top damage. BLH counts were on average less than one BLH per 10 sweeps.
- Seven (7) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. One (1) was positive for curly top virus.
- Four (4) host weed samples were submitted for virus analysis. Results have not been completed and will be reported next month.

## Stanislaus County

- Four (4) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. All were positive for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH populations as the Program begins to prepare for the fall spray campaign.

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