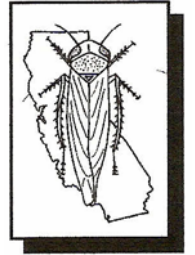


BEET CURLY TOP VIRUS MONTHLY REPORT



CURLY TOP VIRUS CONTROL PROGRAM

2895 N. Larkin, Suite A
Fresno, CA 93727
PHONE: (559) 294-2031
FAX: (559) 294-2037

Report for May, 2016

Program-wide notice

- The Beet Curly Top Virus Control Program's (BCTVCP) spring treatment campaign was conducted from March 25- April 7, 2016. A total of 64,450 acres were treated aurally.
- The Program began performing fallow field and roadside vegetation surveys after the spring spray campaign was completed in April. BLH counts were minimal. The majority of the usual "hotspots" for ground rig treatment did not have sufficient BLH counts to spray.
- In early May, a grower's alert was sent because the Program was concerned that the sporadic rain fall had allowed the spring host weeds in the hillsides to reemerge. Some BLH remained on the hillsides in areas that were treated. Counts were low but the potential was there for the population to build up and possibly allow for another migration of BLH to the valley floor. Additional surveys were conducted in the spring treatment areas. BLH were observed in the Panoche area of Fresno County with counts of 3-6 adults and 0-7 nymphs per 10 sweeps. The higher BLH counts were from Russian thistle and London rocket. Surveys in the Buena Vista Hills in Kern County had BLH counts of 10-20 per 10 sweeps when sweeps were conducted on London rocket. All other surveyed areas had counts of less than 1 BLH per 10 sweeps, on average.
- BLH counts increased some around the second week of May. BLH were detected on roadsides and in some fallow fields at low to moderate counts. Surveys and ground rig treatment were conducted as needed throughout May and the Program will continue to monitor BLH populations over the summer.
- The majority of the tomato fields appear to be in good condition, with some localized curly top virus damage. Organic tomatoes may have the highest incidence of curly top damage.

Fresno County

- Program personnel monitored roadside host vegetation and fallow fields for BLH populations in Firebaugh, Mendota, Huron, Five Points, Three Rocks, Cantua Creek, and Coalinga. Some areas are not possible to treat because of their close proximity to crops.
- Ground rig treatment was conducted in Coalinga and near the oil fields. BLH counts were 3-5 adults and nymphs per sweep.
- Treatment was conducted east of Highway 269, north of Huron, along the dried out Pasajero washout. Russian thistle was abundant and BLH counts were 5-7 adults per sweep.
- Ground rig treatment was also conducted in Firebaugh and Mendota along roadsides. BLH counts were 3-5 adults and nymphs per sweep.
- There is a large solar facility located on Manning Avenue and Highway 33 that

contains an abundance of host weeds. BLH counts were obtained from the weeds on the outside of the solar facility fence line. Counts were 1-3 adult BLH per sweep. Contact was made with the facility and they will notify the construction contractor of the problem in order to control the weeds. There are organic tomatoes near the solar facility, so be advised that once the weeds are disturbed, the BLH will likely move through the nearby tomatoes and could cause another wave of curly top damage.

- Program personnel will continue to monitor roadside host vegetation and fallow fields for BLH populations. Ground rig treatment will continue in June as needed.
- Eight (8) host plant samples were collected and sent to the lab for virus analysis. Seven (7) were positive for curly top virus.
- Ten (10) BLH samples were collected and sent to the lab for virus analysis. Eight (8) were positive for curly top virus.

Imperial County

- BLH and host plant vegetation surveys were conducted the week of May 23, 2016.
- The desert areas that were surveyed were void of annual plant growth with very little BLH host vegetation. Some *Chenopodium* sp. were observed but with little BLH activity.
- BLH counts were inconsistent, with sweeps producing between 0-10 adults and nymphs, per 10 sweeps. Wind conditions were 20-40 mph and interfered with BLH counts.
- Three (3) host plant samples were obtained and sent for virus analysis. Results will be reported next month.
- Three (3) BLH samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. Results will be reported next month.
- Ground rig treatment is not necessary for Imperial County. The next survey will be scheduled after the fall spray campaign.

Kern County

- Program personnel monitored roadside host vegetation and fallow fields for BLH populations. Ground rig treatment was conducted on fallow fields near Old River Road and Copus Road. London rocket was the predominant host weed but there was also a mix of filaree, goosefoot, and Russian thistle. BLH counts were 10-30 adults and nymphs per 10 sweeps. The fields were disked within a week of treatment.
- Roadsides were treated off of Herring Road. BLH counts were 10-15 per 10 sweeps.
- A fallow field off of South Lake Road was treated. BLH counts were 15-20 per 10 sweeps.
- Program personnel will continue to monitor roadside host vegetation and fallow fields for BLH populations. Ground rig treatment will continue in June as needed.
- A tomato field in Buttonwillow was surveyed for curly top damage at the request of the grower. Seventeen (17) symptomatic tomato plants were collected and sent for virus analysis. All of the samples were positive for curly top virus.
- Six (6) host plant samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. Two (2) samples tested positive for curly top virus.
- Five (5) BLH samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. All of the samples were positive for curly top virus.

Kings County

- Program personnel monitored roadside host vegetation and fallow fields for BLH populations. BLH counts were highest when sweeps were conducted on Russian thistle and goosefoot. Counts were 10-13 adult BLH and 0-3 nymphs per 10 sweeps. Ground rig treatment was conducted in these areas.
- Ground rig treatment was conducted on roadsides along Utica Avenue near Interstate 5, along Utica Avenue and 10th Avenue, and along Utica Avenue between Highway 41 and Highway 33 north of Reef City.
- Fallow fields near Highway 41 and Nevada Avenue consisting of Russian thistle, goosefoot, and London rocket were treated. BLH counts were 5-8 per sweep.
- Program personnel will continue to monitor roadside host vegetation and fallow fields for BLH populations. Ground rig treatment will continue in June as needed.
- Three (3) host plant samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. All three

- were positive for curly top virus.
- Three (3) BLH samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. All of the samples were negative for curly top virus.

Merced County

- BLH and host plant vegetation surveys were conducted north east of Los Banos. Several areas of roadside host weeds were surveyed with counts that were less than 1 BLH per 10 sweeps, on average.
- Tomatoes in the County where survey was conducted appeared to be in good condition.
- Four (4) host plant samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. Results are pending and will be reported next month.
- One (1) BLH sample was collected and sent for virus analysis. Results are pending and will be reported next month.
- Personnel will continue to monitor BLH populations and collect both host plant and BLH samples for virus analysis.

Monterey County

- Surveys were conducted the week of May 23, 2016 in Salinas Valley. The majority of the roadsides were clear of weeds, however there were some minimal stretches of BLH host weeds. Russian thistle, goosefoot, mallow, and mustards were observed. Sweeps were conducted in several areas and along the short stretches of roadside host weeds. BLH counts were minimal with less than one BLH per sweep.
- A few fallow fields were identified and sweeps were conducted. Goosefoot was the predominant host weed within the fallow fields. BLH counts were 1-3 per sweep.
- Two (2) host plant samples were collected and sent to the lab for virus analysis. Results will be reported next month.
- Two (2) BLH samples were collected and sent to the lab for virus analysis. Results will be reported next month.

Riverside County

- BLH and host plant vegetation surveys were conducted the week of May 23, 2016.
- Conditions were similar to Imperial County. BLH host vegetation was minimal. There were some patches of Russian thistle and *Chenopodium* sp. along the roadsides near Blythe.
- BLH counts were inconsistent, with sweeps producing between 10-20 adults and nymphs, per 10 sweeps. Wind conditions were 20-40 mph and interfered with BLH counts.
- Four (4) host plants samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. Results will be reported next month.
- Four (4) BLH samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. Results will be reported next month.
- Ground rig treatment is not necessary for Riverside County. The next survey will be scheduled after the fall spray campaign.

Sacramento Valley

- Program personnel will conduct surveys the week of June 13th.

San Joaquin County

- BLH and host plant surveys were conducted. One area north of Highway 132 and the Vernalis truck stop had a small levee pond with a lot of Russian thistle. Sweeps were conducted. BLH counts were less than one BLH per 10 sweeps. A fallow field with a lot of London rocket was also surveyed. Counts were less than one BLH per 10 sweeps.
- Two (2) host plant samples were collected and sent for virus analysis. Both were negative for curly top virus.
- Two (2) BLH samples were obtained and sent for virus analysis. Both samples were positive for curly top virus.

- Personnel will continue to monitor BLH populations and collect both host plant and BLH samples for virus analysis.

Stanislaus County

- BLH and host plant surveys were conducted in the western portions of the County, along Interstate 5. Where there were roadside hosts available, sweeps were conducted. Average BLH counts were less than 1 BLH per 10 sweeps.
- One (1) host plant sample was obtained and sent for virus analysis. It was negative for curly top virus.
- One (1) BLH sample was collected and sent for virus analysis. Results are pending and will be reported next month.
- Personnel will continue to monitor BLH populations and collect both host plant and BLH samples for virus analysis