## BEET CURLY TOP VIRUS CONTROL PROGRAM GROWER ALERT

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## Program-wide notice

- March 8<sup>th</sup>, Beet Curly Top Virus (BCTV) Control Program (Program) personnel identified a significant increase in populations of beet leafhopper (BLH) in some spring survey areas in the San Joaquin Valley (SJV).
- Currently, the Program has identified two such fields where BLH populations have increased significantly and require control measures.
  - Field #9 near Coalinga, CA. This field has a total area of 4,210 acres. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, BLH counts were 15 per 10 net sweeps for adults, and 20 per 10 net sweeps for nymphs.
  - Field #42 near Taft, CA. This field has a total area of 10,904 acres. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, BLH counts were 10 per 10 net sweeps for adults, and 50 per 10 net sweeps for nymphs.
- The Program is working to define the control acreage for field #'s 9 and 42, taking into account buffer zones for pollinators, endangered species, waterways, livestock, and the public, as well as permissions received from property owners for implementing control measures. The total control acreage for each field will be a proportion of the total acreages listed above. Once the control area is defined, control measures may be implemented for these fields as early as March 18th.
- Additional survey fields in Fresno and Kern Counties, with conditions very similar to the fields listed above are being closely monitored for increased BLH populations. If control measured are determined to be necessary, the Program will send out follow up Grower Alerts with additional information.

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