# Beet Curly Top Virus Control Program GROWER ALERT

California Department of Food and Agriculture Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services Integrated Pest Control Branch 2895 N. Larkin Ave, Suite A Fresno, CA 93727 Phone: (559) 294-2031 Fax: (559) 294-2037



#### Alert for August 2022

#### Program Update

- In August, Beet Curly Top Virus Control Program (BCTVCP) personnel identified an increase in populations of beet leafhopper (BLH) in select fallow fields in the San Joaquin Valley (SJV). Overall, BLH counts remained low in most survey areas (0-2 BLH per sweep).
- Mapping activities and BLH population surveys were conducted in fallow fields and along roadsides in Fresno, Kern, and Kings Counties throughout August. Mapping of fall BLH host plants has been completed and these areas will be surveyed and monitored closely for BLH population development. Fall control operations will be considered for areas with developing BLH populations.
- BLH population surveys will be conducted in Merced County and other northern areas throughout the month of September.
- Tomato harvesting is underway throughout the SJV. Commodity surveys are on hold due to harvesting activities. Staff will monitor these areas to determine if late season plantings and replants are present.
- In Fresno County, increased BLH activity (25-30 BLH per sweep) was observed around the Oro Loma area near Oxford Ave and Althea Ave. Host plants were primarily Russian thistle and *Bassia*.
  - Mowing and discing of host vegetation in nearby fallow acreage may be responsible for the BLH dispersal and congregation of BLH into this area.
  - The program is currently planning and coordinating aerial and ground-rig control operations for this area. Control operations are anticipated to take place in early September.
- On August 11, The Beet Curly Top Virus Control Board (Board) held a special meeting to discuss and provide updates on program activities. The Board will hold another special meeting on September 15.
- The Program will continue conducting BLH population surveys on the valley floor and preparing for fall control operations. Russian thistle development is increasing as the fall season approaches, with brief rains in early August affecting the rate of

germination.

- Reminder to growers and PCA's that any fallow fields or weedy areas adjacent to susceptible crops should be inspected for BLH prior to disking or mowing. Growers or PCAs that have identified areas of concern can call the Program for assistance and follow up.
- Please visit the Program's webpage to view previously published reports. <u>https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/ipc/curlytopvirus/ctv\_hp.htm</u>
- For program inquiries or questions regarding this report, please contact Christopher Dillon at <a href="mailto:christopher.dillon@cdfa.ca.gov">christopher.dillon@cdfa.ca.gov</a> or (916) 823-1169.

#### 2022 Curly Top Virus Sample Results

- Colusa County
  - o BLH Samples
    - 1 positive sample
  - Tomato Samples
    - 7 positive samples
    - 3 negative samples
- Imperial County
  - Host Plant Samples
    - 1 positive sample
  - BLH Samples
    - 3 positive samples
    - 1 negative sample
  - Sugar Beet Samples
    - 2 positive samples
    - 4 negative samples

#### • Fresno County

- Host Plant Samples
  - 2 positive samples
  - 89 negative samples
  - Awaiting results for 3 sample
- o BLH Samples
  - 29 positive samples
    - 11 negative samples
  - Awaiting results for 1 sample
- Tomato Samples
  - 51 positive samples
  - 34 negative samples
  - Awaiting results for 1 sample
- Kern County
  - Host Plant Samples
    - 1 positive sample
    - 24 negative samples
  - o BLH Samples

- 8 positive samples
- 16 negative samples
- Tomato Samples
  - 29 positive samples
  - 2 negative samples
- Bell Pepper Samples
  - 1 positive sample

### Kings County

- o Host Plant Samples
  - 1 positive sample
  - 21 negative samples
- o BLH Samples
  - 3 positive samples
  - 10 negative samples
- Tomato Samples
  - 15 positive samples
  - 11 negative samples
- o BLH from Sticky Trap Samples
  - 36 positive samples
  - 57 negative samples

#### Madera County

- Tomato Samples
  - 8 positive samples
- Merced County
  - Host Plant Samples
    - 1 negative sample
  - Tomato Samples
    - 19 positive samples
    - 5 negative samples

#### Monterey County

- o Host Plant Samples
  - 6 negative samples
- o BLH Samples
  - 1 negative sample

#### • San Joaquin County

- Tomato Samples
  - 9 positive samples
- Stanislaus County
  - o Tomato Samples
    - 27 positive samples
    - 1 negative sample
- Tulare County
  - Tomato Samples
    - 3 positive samples

### Yolo County

- Tomato Samples
  - 3 positive samples

## **County Reports**

#### Fresno County

- Mapping of fallow fields containing summer/fall BLH host plants has been completed in Fresno County. These mapped areas will be closely monitored for developing BLH populations in preparation for fall control operations.
- BLH population surveys in fallow fields and roadside vegetation throughout Fresno County are ongoing.
  - High BLH activity (25-30 BLH per sweep) was noted on roadside vegetation and fallow fields near Oro Loma (Oxford Ave and Althea Ave). Nearby mowing and disking of roadside vegetation may have spurred the displacement and congregation of BLH into this area.
  - Low BLH activity (0-2 BLH per sweep) observed in Tranquility, Mendota, Coalinga, Huron, Five Points, and Cantua Creek.

#### Kern County

- Mapping of fallow fields containing summer/fall BLH host plants has been completed in Kern County. These mapped areas will be closely monitored for developing BLH populations in preparation for fall control operations.
- BLH population surveys in fallow fields and roadside vegetation throughout Kern County are ongoing.
  - Fallow fields and roadsides near Mettler, Arvin, and Lost Hills, containing primarily *Bassia* and Russian thistle, had minimal BLH activity with surveys averaging 0-2 BLH per sweep.

#### Kings County

- Mapping of fallow fields containing summer/fall BLH host plants has been completed in Kings County. These mapped areas will be closely monitored for developing BLH populations in preparation for fall control operations.
- BLH population surveys in fallow fields and roadside vegetation throughout Kings County are ongoing.
  - Fallow fields and roadsides near Kettleman City, Stratford, and Lemoore, containing primarily *Bassia*, Russian thistle, and saltbush, had minimal BLH activity with surveys averaging 0-2 BLH per sweep.

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