Beet Curly Top Virus Control Program

GROWER ALERT

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Alert for October 2022

Program Update

- In October, Beet Curly Top Virus Control Program (BCTVCP) personnel conducted beet leafhopper (BLH) fallow field and roadside surveys and mapping activities in Fresno, Kern, Kings, and San Joaquin Counties. Overall, BLH counts remained very low in most survey areas (0-1 BLH per sweep).

- Sporadic BLH nymph activity has been noted in some survey areas. Observed individuals were in the 3rd instar stage of development. No appreciable mass nymph emergences have been noted.

- Moderate BLH counts (7-12 BLH per sweep) were observed in a fallow field near Wheeler Ridge in Kern County. Insect presence is limited to small portions of the field with host vegetation. This area will continue to be monitored for BLH population development and considered for potential ground-rig control operations.

- No control operations were performed in the month of October.

- Die-off and removal of host vegetation on roadsides and in fallow field acreages is in progress. Observed Bassia is dying, and Russian thistle is stressed. Lack of rainfall has stunted development of host vegetation in the westside foothills. Anticipated rains in early November may spur the development of host vegetation on the hillsides.

- Hillside surveys and mapping activities will resume within the next month.

- On October 12, BCTVCP staff provided a Program update at the Melon and Tomato Crops IPM Research Update Meeting at the UC Cooperative Extension in Five Points.

- On October 20, the Beet Curly Top Virus Control Board (BCTVCB) held a special meeting to discuss updates on Program activities.

- 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 newly updated webpage to view Program reports and
The BCTVCP has deployed a new Beet Leafhopper Sighting Report that industry can use to report BLH or CTV incidence in the field. This report is available using the following web browser link: https://arcg.is/O9LyK or by downloading the ArcGIS Survey123 app from the Google Play Store or Apple App Store and using the QR code below. A user guide for the BLH Sighting Report is available on the BCTVCP webpage.

For program inquiries or questions regarding this report, please contact Christopher Dillon at christopher.dillon@cdfa.ca.gov or (916) 823-1169.

2022 Beet Curly Top Virus Sample Results

- **Colusa County**
  - 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
    - 90 negative samples
    - Awaiting results for 3 samples
  - BLH Samples
    - 30 positive samples
    - 11 negative samples
    - Awaiting results for 1 sample
  - Tomato Samples
    - 52 positive samples
    - 34 negative samples
- **Kern County**
  - Host Plant Samples
    - 1 positive sample
    - 24 negative samples
  - BLH Samples
    - 8 positive samples
    - 16 negative samples
  - Tomato Samples
    - 29 positive samples
    - 2 negative samples
  - Bell Pepper Samples
    - 1 positive sample

- **Kings County**
  - Host Plant Samples
    - 1 positive sample
    - 21 negative samples
    - Awaiting results for 1 sample
  - BLH Samples
    - 3 positive samples
    - 10 negative samples
    - Awaiting results for 1 sample
  - Tomato Samples
    - 15 positive samples
    - 11 negative samples
  - 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
    - Awaiting results for 1 sample
  - BLH Samples
    - Awaiting results for 1 sample
  - Tomato Samples
    - 19 positive samples
    - 5 negative samples

- **Monterey County**
  - Host Plant Samples
    - 6 negative samples
  - 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
  o Tomato Samples
    ▪ 3 positive samples

- Yolo County
  o Tomato Samples
    ▪ 3 positive samples

**County Reports**

**Fresno County**
- BLH population surveys in fallow fields and roadside vegetation throughout Fresno County are ongoing. Hillside surveys are anticipated to resume within the next month.
  o Fallow fields and roadsides near Coalinga, Tumey Hills, Panoche Creek, Huron, Cantua Creek, Five Points, Tranquility, Mendota, Firebaugh, Oro Loma, Dos Palos, containing primarily Russian thistle and *Bassia*, had very low BLH activity with surveys averaging 0-1 BLH per sweep.

**Kern County**
- BLH population surveys in fallow fields and roadside vegetation throughout Kern County are ongoing. Hillside surveys are anticipated to resume within the next month.
  o Moderate BLH counts (7-12 BLH per sweep) were observed in a fallow field near Wheeler Ridge. This area will continue to be monitored for BLH population development and considered for ground-rig control operations.
  o Fallow fields and roadsides near Shafter, Wheeler Ridge, and Lost Hills, containing primarily Russian thistle, *Bassia*, and saltbush, had low BLH activity with surveys averaging 1-3 BLH per sweep.

**Kings County**
- BLH population surveys in fallow fields and roadside vegetation throughout Kings County are ongoing. Hillside surveys are anticipated to resume within the next month.
  o Fallow fields and roadsides near Kettleman City and Stratford, containing primarily Russian thistle and *Bassia*, had very low BLH activity with surveys averaging 0-1 BLH per sweep.

**San Joaquin County**
- BLH population surveys in fallow fields and roadside vegetation throughout San Joaquin County were conducted in the month of October.
  o Fallow fields and roadsides around Lathrop, Holt, Waterloo, and Lockeford, containing primarily Russian thistle, had very low BLH activity with surveys averaging 0-1 BLH per sweep.
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