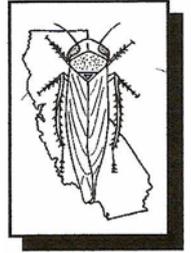


BEET CURLY TOP VIRUS WEEKLY REPORT



CURLY TOP VIRUS CONTROL PROGRAM

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Weekly Report for Week Ending August 24, 2012

Kern County

Beet leafhopper (BLH) counts near Williams Pump ranged from 0 to 5 per single sweep. Approximately 20 percent of the population consisted of large nymphs. At the pump station, counts decreased significantly to about half that amount. Throughout the area, Russian thistle appears short and scrubby and many plants have begun to stress and harden.

On the Flats, west of Lost Hills, a large portion of Russian thistle has dried up, producing zero BLH counts. However, sporadic patches of small green thistle harbored 8 to 10 per single sweep. Last week, BLH counts ranged from 30 to 50 per sweep in the same area. Extremely hot weather and widespread desiccation may have triggered a migration into other areas.

Lost Hills Oil Field had a slight up-tick in BLH counts. This could be attributed to the poor host plant conditions on the Flats and in a few other spots. Host vegetation is holding up well, and may last for a while. Surveys averaged 3 adults per single sweep along the east end, and 1 to 4 at the south end.

Work was completed on the property waiver list for Kern County.

Fresno County

Survey of host plants continued through the week. The Russian thistle is still doing well and looks healthy. BLH counts seem to be light in most areas although there are a few fields with high counts. High BLH counts averaging 50 plus were found in an area south of Manning and just west of Highway 33. Approximately 20 percent were nymphs. The prevalent host was Russian thistle but there was also some saltbush in the fields. The elevation in the BLH population is most likely the result of migration from recently cultivated fields around the perimeter of the area.

Waivers have now been mailed for Kings, Kern and Fresno Counties. Some waivers have been sent back as "undeliverable" by the post office. Those waivers will be checked at the county recorders office for the correct address.

Maps of potential treatment areas are being updated as properties are added or have been cultivated.