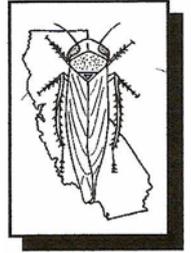


BEET CURLY TOP VIRUS WEEKLY REPORT



CURLY TOP VIRUS CONTROL PROGRAM

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Weekly Report for Week Ending September 28, 2012

Kern County

Survey was conducted in the Antelope Valley and vicinity of Rosamond this week. Russian thistle is abundant throughout the area, particularly on fallowed portions of the desert and roadsides. Most plants appear hardy and unaffected by hot, dry weather conditions. Beet leafhopper (BLH) surveys produced 1 to 5 adults, plus one occasional nymph, per single sweep. The population may be disseminated over a large area, and will probably remain for awhile.

Tejon Ranch harbors a good amount of Russian thistle on idled property near the Interstate 5 corridor and Laval Road. Typically, when summer plants begin deteriorating in other areas, BLH activity will tend to increase slightly on the east side. However, surveys through the area found no change in populations. Counts ranged from 0 to 3 adults per sweep on. Stressing of host plants can be seen in this area.

Survey in the vicinity of Lost Hills found conditions relatively unchanged from the previous week. BLH concentrations may be occurring in heavier vegetation, however counts are still holding in most locations. Surveys produced 4 adults, plus 1 to 2 nymphs, per sweep near the airport, between 0 to 4 on portions of the flats, and 1 to 3 in the oil field.

Fresno County

BLH survey continued during the week in western Fresno County. Russian thistle was found developing this year in the Gujarral Hills. BLH's are present but the counts are relatively low at this time. We'll continue to monitor this location for any sizeable BLH hatch activity. Several areas remain under cultivation or have sheep.

Fresno Facility

A pre-treatment staff meeting was held to discuss the potential treatment acreage and BLH population levels in anticipation of October treatment activities. At this time an estimated 16,000 to 20,000 acres of summer host plants are under consideration for treatment to control BLH populations. Further cultivation and population shifting may further reduce the potential acreage.

Map information was updated. The maps display field ID #'s, acreage labels and cultivated fields. These maps will facilitate staff with our fall treatment campaign.