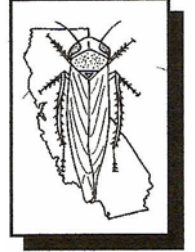


# BEET CURLY TOP VIRUS MONTHLY REPORT



## ***CURLY TOP VIRUS CONTROL PROGRAM***

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Report for May, 2015

### **Program-wide notice**

- Roadsides and fallow fields were monitored for beetle leafhopper (BLH) populations throughout May. BLH counts remained minimal in some fields, whereas other fields had a significant number of BLH. Personnel observed the highest BLH counts on stressed goosefoot.
- Ground treatment was conducted in Fresno, Kern, Kings and Tulare counties. A total of 2,960 gallons of mixed Malathion were used to treat fallow ground and roadside host weeds harboring BLH.
- A total of fifteen (15) beetle leafhopper samples were sent in for virus analysis last month. Results have been completed and thirteen (13) were positive for curly top virus.
- Overall, the amount of curly top virus infection appears to be within a normal infection range, however, there are isolated tomato fields with above average damage.
- **Remember, it is best to use an insecticide for BLH on any weedy areas, prior to disking. Disking and grazing, or using an herbicide, causes the beetle leafhoppers to move.**

### **Fresno County**

- Personnel continued to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH.
- Ground treatment was conducted in May in several fallow fields and along roadsides in Coalinga and Three Rocks from Highway 145 to Adams Avenue. Ground treatment was conducted in Firebaugh from Bullard Avenue to Jensen Avenue on the north and south, and Fairfax to Highway 33 on the east and west. Ground treatment was also conducted in Mendota. Average BLH counts were 5-10 adults and nymphs per 10 sweeps in those areas. Host weeds with the highest BLH counts were goosefoot and lambsquarters.
- Three fallow fields off of Jersey Avenue and 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue had a



significant amount of goosefoot growing on it. BLH counts were 100+ adult and nymphs with 3-4 sweeps on stressed goosefoot. Some portions were being grazed by sheep so treatment crews were working around the sheep. Treatment will continue as the sheep are moved. There is a solar farm across from the field that has an abundance of goosefoot and other host weeds growing under the solar panels. A contact attempt was made but the Program has not heard back from the solar company.

- A total of 640 gallons of mixed Malathion were used during the month of May and applied by a ground rig vehicle.
- A total of fifty-four (54) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. Forty-eight (48) were positive for curly top virus.
- A total of seven (7) host weed samples were submitted for virus analysis. All seven (7) were positive for curly top virus.
- Two (2) BLH samples were submitted for virus analysis. One (1) was positive for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify, monitor, and treat fallow fields and roadsides, as needed.

## **Kern County**

- Personnel continued to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH. Host weeds such as goosefoot, lambsquarters, and Russian thistle have been abundant along roadsides and perimeters of wheat fields. High BLH counts have been swept from goosefoot, with counts as high as 100+ adult and nymphs per single sweep!
- Ground treatment was conducted along several roadsides, fallow fields, and the edges of wheat fields in areas where tomatoes were nearby.
- 360 acres of fallowed ground near South Lake Road and Hill Road were treated.
- 560 acres of fallowed ground on Copus Road and Old River Road, west of Interstate 5, were treated. The field had abundant goosefoot and BLH counts were 100+ per single sweep.
- The fallow fields were treated before they were disked.
- A total of 1,040 gallons of mixed Malathion were used during the month of May and applied by a ground rig vehicle.
- BLH survey in the Lost Hills, Twissleman Road, Devil's Den, Keck's Road and Blackwell's Corner had minimal BLH activity.
- Twenty-two (22) symptomatic tomato plant samples were sent for virus analysis. Twenty-one (21) were positive for curly top virus. Two (2) melon samples were submitted for virus analysis and both were positive for curly top virus.
- Three (3) BLH samples were submitted for virus analysis. Two (2) were positive for curly top virus, and one sample is pending. Results will be reported next month.
- Two (2) host weed samples were submitted for virus analysis and both were positive for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify, monitor, and treat fallow fields and roadsides, as needed.

## **Kings County**

- Personnel continued to identify and monitor fallow fields for BLH. Host weeds such as goosefoot, Russian thistle, mallow, London rocket, *Bassia*, lambsquarters, prostrate pigweed and purslane have been identified within fallow fields and along roadsides.
- Several fallow fields, approximately 1,740 acres, west of Stratford were treated. BLH counts were 50-100 adults and nymphs per single sweep.
- A total of 1,170 gallons of mixed Malathion were used during the month of May and applied by a ground rig vehicle.
- Three (3) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis and all were positive for curly top virus.
- Eleven (11) host weed samples were submitted for virus analysis. Results have not been completed, and will be reported next month.
- Two (2) BLH samples were submitted for virus analysis. Results have not been completed and will be reported next month.
- Personnel will continue to identify, monitor, and treat fallow fields and roadsides, as needed.

## **Madera County**

- Personnel dropped off sticky traps to a grower off of Avenue 7. BLH surveys were conducted as well. Personnel observed host weeds in an almond orchard near a young tomato field. BLH counts within the host weeds averaged 5 adults and nymphs per sweep.
- Eleven (11) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. Ten (10) were positive for curly top virus.
- One (1) host weed sample (salt brush) was submitted for virus analysis. It was positive for curly top virus.
- One (1) BLH sample was submitted for virus analysis. It was positive for curly top virus.

## **Merced County**

- Personnel continued to monitor vegetation and BLH populations. Host weeds included mustard, *Bassia*, Russian thistle, prostrate pigweed, and lambsquarters along roadsides and within a few fields.
- Several roadside locations west of Highway 59 and north of Highway 152, were surveyed for BLH. Salt brush yielded the highest BLH counts. BLH counts ranged from 2-4 adult and nymph per 10 sweeps, to 35 adults and nymphs per 10 sweeps.
- One location off of East Avenue and Carnation Road had sweep counts of 6-7 adults and 2-3 nymphs per sweep.
- Thirty (30) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. Twenty-four (24) were positive for curly top virus.
- Three (3) weed hosts were submitted for virus analysis. All three were positive for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify, monitor, and treat fallow fields and roadsides, as needed.

## **Riverside/ Imperial County**

- BLH and host weed survey was scheduled for the first week of June. Survey results will be reported on next month.

## **San Joaquin County**

- Fallow field and roadside host weeds were surveyed for BLH.
- BLH sweep counts were 3-4 adults and zero nymphs per 10 sweeps within a small fallow field off of Koster Road, west of Highway 33. Host weeds included Russian thistle, lambsquarters, pigweed, goosefoot, and mustard.
- Along the Tracy Defense Depot perimeter on the west side of Banta Road, sweep counts were 2-3 adults and zero nymphs per 10 sweeps.
- Roadside host weeds included mustard, Russian thistle, pigweed and mallow. Average sweep counts were minimal with 0-2 adults and zero nymphs per 10 sweeps.
- Five (5) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. Three (3) were positive for curly top virus.
- Two (2) host weed samples were submitted for virus analysis. Both were positive for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify, monitor, and treat fallow fields and roadsides, as needed.

## **Stanislaus County**

- Fallow field and roadside host weeds were surveyed for BLH.
- BLH surveys within weeds of several orchards had sweep counts of 4-5 adults and 0-3 nymphs per sweep. Host weeds were stressed mallow, filaree, and goosefoot.
- Nine (9) symptomatic tomato plant samples were submitted for virus analysis. Seven (7) were positive for curly top virus.
- One (1) host weed sample was submitted for virus analysis. It was positive for curly top virus.
- Personnel will continue to identify, monitor, and treat fallow fields and roadsides, as

needed.

## **Tulare County**

- At a grower's request, roadsides east of Dairy Avenue and Utica Avenue near County Line Road were surveyed for BLH and host weeds.
- Counts were minimal in a fallow field but along the roadsides counts were 20-30 BLH adults per sweep.
- Ground treatment was conducted on roadside host weeds near Alpaugh, off of Road 16 and Virginia Avenue. A total of 110 gallons of mixed Malathion were used and applied by a ground rig vehicle.

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