

PINK BOLLWORM PROGRAM – WEEKLY REPORT
41 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COTTON GROWERS



State of California
2895 N. Larkin, Suite A
Fresno, CA 93727
Department of Food & Agriculture
Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services
Integrated Pest Control Branch

(559) 294-2031
FAX 294-2037

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Pink Bollworm Activities

Southern California:

Native Pink Bollworm (PBW) moth captures have increased slightly in Imperial County this week. The native count for Imperial County this week was 224, compared to 190 captured last week. Compared to the same week in 2007, Imperial County trapped 97.6% fewer natives. The 1,108 natives caught in the “highway line” traps this week is a 580% increase from the 163 caught last week and a 21.5% increase from the same week in 2007. Riverside County natives caught this week totaled 2,618, a 249% increase over last week, but an 86.8% decrease from last year during the same week. The 735 moths trapped along the All American Canal and Interstate I-8 at the southern end of Imperial County represents a 32.4% increase compared to 555 trapped during the same week in 2007.

The majority of these increased native captures are most likely due to continued movement into California from Mexico. There was a 353% increase in Imperial Valley sterile moth recoveries over last week from 2,202 to 9,979. There was a 116% increase in sterile moth recoveries this week in the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley area, from 906 to 1958.

San Joaquin Valley:

There were 16,235,493 sterile moths released this week, bringing the season total to 191,273,828. The Shafter Identification Lab examined 366 traps containing 10,030 sterile moths in traps from Kern, Kings, Tulare, Fresno, and Merced Counties. There were 46 natives trapped this week. Forty-three of these are repeats in Merced County from the two fields in Dos Palos that have previously produced 13 natives. One was captured in Fresno County in the field near Mendota with 17 earlier finds, and two were trapped in Kern County. They were found in Township 30, Range 24, Sections 3 & 4. Section 4 was already under release due to a native find in 2007 and section 3 is adjacent to it. The trap in section 3 had 133 steriles in the trap with the single native. Agricultural Pest Control Specialist Larry Olagues verified the locations of the native collections in Kern County and placed additional traps in each field. The bolls collected from Fresno and Merced Counties being held in incubation boxes were examined for emerging pink bollworm larvae. No larvae or pupae have been found to date.

Sacramento Valley:

Traps will be examined and removed in two to three weeks.