

# **PINK BOLLWORM PROGRAM – WEEKLY REPORT**

**42 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COTTON GROWERS**



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## **Pink Bollworm Activities**

### **Southern California:**

Native Pink Bollworm (PBW) moth captures decreased this week after eight weeks of exponential increases. The native count for Imperial County dropped 82% from last week, from 159 to 28. Riverside County was down 17%, from 469 to 387. The 32 natives caught in the “highway line” traps this week is a 222% decrease from the 103 caught last week. The decrease in native captures is most likely due to the drop in nighttime temperatures, from the mid to high seventies to the mid to low sixties. This is somewhat substantiated by the 36% average drop in sterile moth recaptures for all traps in Southern California. The decrease is very close to the 39% average drop in native moth recoveries for all traps in Southern California.



**Pink Bollworm Larvae  
(in a cotton boll)**

### **San Joaquin Valley:**

There were 11,984,272 sterile moths released this week, bringing the season total to 196,349,032. The Shafter Identification Lab examined 162 traps containing 1,588 sterile moths in traps from Kern, Kings, Fresno, and Merced Counties. The Lab also examined 214 traps from Southern California which contained 4,244 sterile moths and 447 native pink bollworm moths. There were 11 natives trapped in the San Joaquin Valley this week. Nine of these natives are from the same area in Merced County that caught 5 natives last week. Two natives were captured in Fresno County in the field near Mendota where native moths were found last week.



**Ground Release Unit**

Agricultural Pest Control Specialists Thomas Williams and Larry Olagues have been augmenting the aerial sterile moth releases using the Pink Bollworm Programs “Ground Release Unit”. Two million sterile moths were released this week in select native find fields in Merced and Fresno Counties. This option has been employed due to disappointing sterile moth recapture numbers in traps with repeat native finds.

### **Sacramento Valley:**

Traps will be examined and removed when heat unit accumulations indicate at least two weeks have passed from the predicted second field generation peak.