



VINE MEALYBUG (VMB) TRAPPING AND SURVEY PROTOCOL FOR FIELD GROWN GRAPEVINE NURSERY STOCK

- A. Trapping Season** - In the southern San Joaquin Valley traps should be placed in April. Further north traps should be placed in May. Traps can be removed in November.
- B. Trap** - Delta Trap (Pink Bollworm) with a VMB lure containing a pheromone such as Lavandulyl senecioate.
- C. Trap Density and Placement** -
1. Place one trap per 20 planted acres.
 2. Traps should be at least 160 feet apart.
 3. Traps should be placed in high traffic areas, a few vines from the end of a row.
 4. In trellised increase blocks, traps should be hung at or above the cordon and near the center of the vine (i.e., over the top of the trunk). In untrellised blocks, the trap may be suspended from a Japanese beetle trapping pole such that it does not interfere with normal farming practices. All traps should be placed so that the ends of the traps are not blocked by obstructions such as fruit or leaves.
- D. Servicing Requirements** -
1. For field-grown grapevine nursery stock, traps should be inspected every month during the trapping season by the California Dept. of Food and Agricultural (CDFA) or county agricultural commissioner (CAC) staff.
 2. Lure should be replaced according to the manufacturer's recommendation.
 3. Please note: If trapping in an area known to be or suspected of being infested with VMB, be cautious of accidentally spreading crawlers (first instars) within or among grapevines or to other trapping locations. Recommended sanitation procedures include cleaning or changing footwear or wearing disposable booties. Other personal protective equipment could include items such as disposable overalls and gloves.
- E. Submittal/Determination** - Traps are deployed and managed by the CDFA or CAC staff. They are submitted to the CDFA Plant Pest Diagnostic Center (PPDC) to verify the presence of VMB and determine if the count exceeds five or more male *Planococcus ficus*.
- F. Relocation** - Relocation of a trap should be done only if the trap is impeding nursery practices, or has been destroyed.
- G. Positive Finds/Visual Survey** - When five or more male mealybugs have been identified by the PPDC in a single trap, walking surveys shall be conducted by the CDFA or CAC staff in an attempt to find and verify the VMB infestation. A mature female VMB must be found and then identified by the PPDC to verify an infestation.

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H. Standards of Cleanliness – If during a visual survey an infestation is verified by the presence of a mature female VMB, the grapevine material no longer meets the standards of cleanliness (California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 3, Section 3060.2). The grapevine material may not be sold or shipped prior to treatment and is subject to enforcement action in accordance with CCR, Title 3, Section 3060.4. To facilitate movement of dormant grapevine material, hot water must be treated in accordance with the “Hot Water Treatment Protocol for Dormant Grapevine Material” under a compliance agreement with the CAC.