

Napa County Agricultural Commissioner Pest Prevention Programs, July 2009

Light Brown Apple Moth

- ✓ In the absence of a USDA/CDFG eradication program for LBAM, infestations appear to be spreading north from the initial positive trap locations in American Canyon and Carneros. In Napa County this season, delimitations due to new moth trap finds have been almost continuous, therefore the quarantine areas of the County continue to grow. The current quarantine zone extends from the City of American Canyon and parts of Carneros in the south to, and including, St Helena in the north. The area is bordered on the west side by Dry Creek Road and on the east by Conn Creek Road. A current quarantine map is maintained at the Napa County Agricultural Commissioner web site at :
http://www.co.napa.ca.us/GOV/Departments/26400/pests/lbam_comp_ag.asp
- ✓ Growers and wineries affected by the quarantine are being contacted about restrictions and are required to sign onto Compliance Agreements in order to move/receive commodities from the quarantine area. The Napa County Agricultural Commissioner's office has issued over 500 of the approximately 1200 compliance agreements expected to be issued, given the quarantine boundary to date.
- ✓ Tentative approval has been granted to begin local experimentation of Sterile Insect Technology (SIT) in Carneros where Napa and Sonoma Counties meet on Duhig/Ramal Road. USDA has conducted the environmental review and comments have been received and are being analyzed. The experimental SIT program is expected to begin in August or September of 2009.

Glassy-winged Sharpshooter

- ✓ The implementation of the Approved Treatment Protocol is now in its second year, and Napa County has received 46 ATP shipments; 41 from Village Nurseries in Riverside County, 4 from Bordiers' Nursery in Ventura County and 1 from Valley Crest Tree Co. in Ventura County. Shipments have all been treated with carbaryl (Sevin) under supervision of origin county inspectors. With few exceptions statewide, the program seems to be working well.
- ✓ So far in 2009 in Napa County, one viable egg mass has been found - on a Camellia from a large southern California nursery that specializes in Camellias and Azaleas (Nuccio's). Camellias from this nursery were destined to three locations - one nursery and two landscape project sites; all three sub-shipments were rejected due to the egg mass.
- ✓ Trapping in vineyard areas of the county continues at the density of 7 traps per square mile with no GWSS finds to date.
- ✓ Senator Patricia Wiggins has proposed legislation (SB 2) to reauthorize CDFG's Pierce's disease program for another 5 years (from March 2011 to March 2016). The bill would also expand the authority of the Pierce's Disease Control Program Advisory Board to expend funds for any other pest or disease that they find threatens California's grape crop. Current language includes amendments that would increase the use of assessment dollars from 7% to 14% for administration of the program by CDFG. (Bob Wynn has indicated the 7% figure is closer to actual administrative costs and CDFG does not expect to significantly increase these costs over where they are currently.) The bill is currently in suspense in the Assembly Appropriations Committee and if passed and signed by the Governor, an industry referendum would need to be successful for the program to continue. As can be seen by the detail under "Napa County Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District" section below, Napa County's GWSS program is dependent on substantial resources from the statewide program.

Vine Mealybug

- ✓ The Carneros region continues to be the hotspot for VMB spread.
- ✓ In 2008, 10 new infestations were located—eight of them are in Carneros, one on Orchard Ave., and one in east Napa. So far in 2009, four new VMB infestations have been located. Three are in the northern Carneros region (north of Hwy 121), and the fourth is on Orchard Ave north of Napa. The new infestations bring the total number in Napa County to 74.
- ✓ The 2008 revision of the Napa County Vine Mealybug Compliance Agreement allows alternatives to the hard chemical eradication protocol initially adopted; Viticultural Farm Adviser, Monica Cooper is developing biocontrol and IPM programs to deal with VMB infestations. The Compliance Agreement will incorporate the recommendations from UCCE as they evolve.
- ✓ Viticulture Farm Adviser Monica Cooper will be leading three “Vine Mealybug Field Days” around the county in July, to teach growers how to identify VMB in the various life stages and how to recognize VMB predators and parasitized VMB.
- ✓ Ag. Commissioner’s staff continues to work with growers to assure control of VMB populations and reduce the possibility of VMB spread or movement with fruit at harvest. Trapping in vineyard areas continues at 7 per square mile except near infestations where densities are higher. Traps are in place and will continue to be monitored, though most VMB infestations are not located until fall - when the main population buildup occurs. When we see numbers of males in traps rising, we contact the grower to advise that control measures are needed.
- ✓ A new approach to VMB control is being studied by the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office and the Napa County Viticulture Farm Adviser. The concept is for a large-scale mating disruption program in a region of contiguous vineyards up to 500 acres to be treated with VMB Pheromone dispensers for an entire season. The program would be initiated in the spring before mating commences and proceed throughout the growing season. The cost of the program would be \$50K and would be paid with Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District assessments. Or, with grower cooperation, costs might be split with growers in order to expand the area that could be treated with the \$50K. A multi-year program is expected to produce the best results.

Napa County Winegrape Pest and Disease Control District

- ✓ Napa County’s state funded 09/10 GWSS workplan totals \$471,800. We’re in the third year of a 3-year agreement, and the reimbursed expenditures are short of the actual anticipated expenditures of \$533,731. Additional funding will be requested for actual expenditures.
- ✓ The County and the District share the local inspection program (non-blue tag), each paying \$145,158.
- ✓ The District alone funds the GWSS Vineyard Protection Program (7/sq mi. trapping) at a cost of \$35,402.
- ✓ The County and the District share the cost of the workplan for Vine Mealybug. For FY 9/10, the planned expenditures total \$126,185. (District share: \$63,093)
- ✓ The total funding for GWSS and VMB programs for 09/10 is budgeted at \$1,062,030. (including Reserves of \$63,355, Engineer’s Report of \$5,800, and Administrative Costs of \$12,861.)
- ✓ The district share of the local programs at \$257,225. This is the amount to be collected as assessments.
- ✓ Assessed acreage is 45,933, so the assessment required to fund the local program is \$5.60/acre.