

**FIELD OBSERVATIONS**

**GILL'S MEALYBUG OBSERVATIONS**

Gill's Mealybug monitoring in Pistachio in the areas of Lost Hills, Kettleman City, Laton, Five Points, Corcoran, Huron, and Coalinga finds the populations to be at the adult and crawler stage. Adults are now giving birth to mealybug crawlers. Adults will die once they are done giving birth to their offspring. Crawlers can be found under the females, and some have started moving to the leaves to begin feeding. The peak crawler hatch in the South Valley is happening now; presently at about



**Gill's Mealybug Adult with Crawlers**

90% crawler hatch. It is time to begin Centaur sprays to control Gill's Mealybug. Crawlers will continue to hatch for the next 7-10 days and will remain susceptible for at least the next couple of weeks. **The optimal Centaur treatment window is from now until the end of first week in June.** The sooner the better.

Gill's Mealybug development north of Sacramento shows all to be at the adult stage. The majority are now settled and "nested". Based on the developmental stage of the eggs, it will likely be another 7-10 days before crawler emergence occurs. Plan to begin Centaur applications in the North Valley by early June.

Centaur at 34.5 oz to 46 oz/acre + a good surfactant in 200 GPA with a tractor speed of 2MPH will provide excellent control of Gill's Mealybug at this window. Use 40-46 oz for

high populations. Centaur is an insect growth regulator; therefore, the application should be made to target the peak crawler emergence. Crawlers will pick up the Centaur residue as they move around searching for a feeding site. Open nozzles to cover the trunk of trees; many of the crawlers are coming from there.

Be sure to carefully monitor known hot spots for Gill's Mealybug to properly time Centaur application in orchards. Right now, look for adult mealybugs with crawlers under them hiding on the trunk and limbs and crawlers moving to leaves near the trunk.



**Mealybug Crawlers on a Stem**

**FROSTED SCALE FIELD OBSERVATIONS**

Monitoring for Frosted Scale in the South Valley shows Frosted Scale crawlers have started hatching. Crawler hatch between Gill's Mealybug and Frosted Scale is overlapping quite well this year. Centaur will also control any Frosted Scale crawlers at this time.

Consult with pistachio processor to confirm in-season applications of Centaur are permitted.

**NOTE: The field observations above are provided as general comments to help in treatment decisions. Individual field conditions can vary widely. Monitor individual fields carefully.**



**Frosted Scale Crawlers Under an Adult**

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