



Gill's Mealybug Pest Alert™

**May 18, 2023
ALERT #7**

GILL'S MEALYBUG FIELD OBSERVATIONS

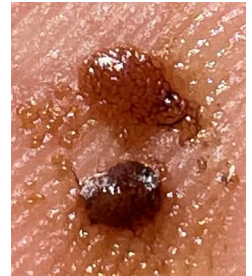


GMB Nesting in Trunk

Gill's Mealybug monitoring this week in Fresno, Tulare, Kings, and Kern Counties indicates that the mealybug is primarily at the adult stage now. Adults have moved back to "nest" on the large limbs and trunk. They have started producing eggs within their bodies and very early crawler hatch can be observed in some locations. With the warm weather that the region is experiencing, mealybug development will advance rapidly.

Based on current observations, peak crawler emergence is expected to occur around May 25th this year. As adult females give birth, the new crawlers will remain with the mother for a couple days before they disperse into the foliage nearby and begin to colonize pistachio clusters. At this life-stage, Gill's mealybugs are very susceptible to insecticides.

In Northern CA adult Gill's mealybug can be found feeding near the nut clusters on the shoots. They have started to produce eggs but have not moved back to the trunks to nest yet.

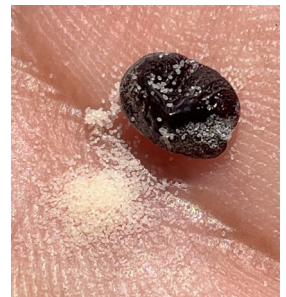


**Mashed GMB
With Eggs**

It is time to start thinking about an in-season application to target first generation crawler hatch. The primary choices are Movento, Fujimite, Assail, or Centaur (if allowed by your processor). The timing of the application varies depending on which option is chosen. Centaur should be applied at early crawler emergence. Movento should also be applied on the earlier side. Contacts such as Fujimite and Assail should be applied when most of the crawlers are out.

Those who missed the March/April application this year and are finding adult mealybugs on the trunks right now will likely need a two-spray program to manage Gill's mealybug in-season. Consider making an application of Fujimite, Assail, or Movento targeting the first crawler hatch of the year, followed by a second treatment with either Assail or Fujimite at the second crawler hatch to keep clusters clean at harvest.

Fujimite SC is a relatively new tool which offers a different mode of action for in-season control of Gill's mealybug in pistachio. Use Fujimite after most crawlers from the first-generation hatched (around June 7). This application will also provide excellent control of citrus flat mite, and frosted scale. Apply Fujimite 5SC at 2 pts/acre + Silicon surfactant, in 200 GPA, at 2 MPH tractor speed to deliver excellent knockdown and short residual activity of all mealybug stages.



Frosted Scale w/ Eggs

FROSTED SCALE FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Frosted scale is at the adult stage and can be found on ½ inch thick or smaller limbs. Adults are now producing eggs which will change color and likely start to hatch next week. Nymph stages will colonize leaves and will remain on the leaves for the rest of the season. Fujimite or acetamiprid applications in June targeting Gill's mealybug will provide contact activity on this pest.

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.

Northern CA
Central Valley
South/Central Valley
No. Central Valley
North SJV
South SJV

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