

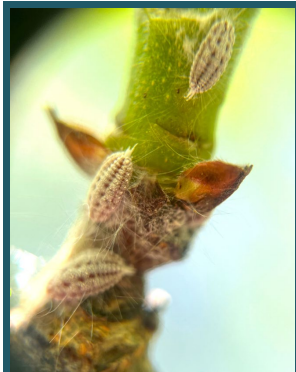


Gill's Mealybug Pest Alert™

May 3, 2024
ALERT #7

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

GILL'S MEALYBUG OBSERVATIONS



Adults Feeding - NorCal

Recent monitoring in the areas of Fresno, Tulare, Kings, and Kern counties indicates that Gill's mealybugs are primarily at the adult stage. Around 90% of the population are done feeding on the buds and have migrated back to the limbs and trunk of the trees. Mealybugs nest in cracks and crevices in the bark. Most adults are developing eggs within their bodies by now. Some large 2nd instars can be found along with some adults feeding at the base of twigs and clusters, but these too will move back to the wood when they are done feeding. The most developmentally advanced adults will begin giving birth to crawlers next week.

Based on the current development of the mealybug population, we can expect peak crawler emergence to be around May 21st this year for the Central Valley.

In the North Valley, the majority of the nymphs have molted into adults that are feeding in the canopy. They have not begun nesting yet.

Most of the orchards that sprayed Centaur in March or early April saw excellent mealybug control; however, because the mealybug population was not perfectly synchronized it is likely a portion of the population was missed. If you had a moderate to heavy infestation earlier this year, you will need a follow up application of an effective mealybug material in May or June targeting crawlers to finish clean at harvest. Gill's mealybug control in pistachio often requires a spray program approach to achieve season long control.

Most pistachio processors do not allow the use of Centaur in-season. Always consult with your processor's grower liaison before making an in-season application of CENTAUR in pistachios. Alternative in-season products you can consider include the following: Fujimite, acetamiprid (if your processor allows it), or spirotetramat (assuming you don't have a resistant population).

If your processor allows CENTAUR in season and you did not use it earlier this year, apply it at crawler hatch (at or after May 21st) using 34.5 to 46 oz/A + a good silicone or NIS surfactant with 150-200 GPA with a tractor speed of 2 MPH.

For the contact materials such as Fujimite or acetamiprid, it is best to wait until the majority of crawlers have hatched and have moved to the leaves and clusters to feed (usually first week of June) as they will be very susceptible and exposed. These contact materials provide quick knockdown and short residual control.

Fujimite should be used at 2-3 pts/a in 200 GPA with a NIS or Silicone surfactant and a tractor speed of 2 mph. Best to time to use it is targeting first generation crawler hatch in early June when the majority of crawlers have hatched. This Fujimite application will also control citrus flat mite and Citricola scale nymphs on the foliage.

Applications of CENTAUR and FUJIMITE are rainfast as soon as they are dry (actual times will vary based on weather conditions).

FROSTED SCALE FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Frosted scales are at the adult stage on limbs and eggs can be found underneath them. Expect hatch middle to late May.

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
No. Central Valley
North SJV
South Valley

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