

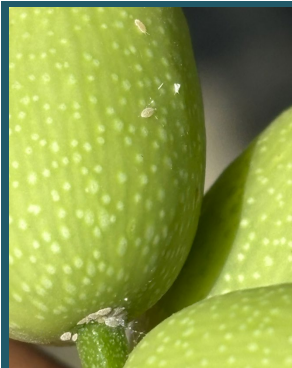


Gill's Mealybug Pest Alert™

**May 31, 2024
ALERT #9**

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

GILL'S MEALYBUG OBSERVATIONS



Nymphs on Cluster

Recent monitoring in the areas of Fresno, Tulare, Kings, and Kern counties indicates that Gill's mealybugs are primarily at the 1st instar stage. Most adults have given birth to crawlers and are now dead. As of May 30, crawler hatch was at 95%. At this stage, the population is very synchronized with most of the mealybugs at the 1st and 2nd instars stage. Currently, mealybugs can be found on the foliage in the inner part of the tree and on pistachio clusters.

For orchards that currently have nymphs, the University of California recommends treatment if an average of 1 or more mealybugs are present per 10 clusters sampled. What may appear as a low population at this time of the year can turn into a significant problem at harvest if left untreated. Click [HERE](#) to go to the *UC IPM Pistachio Pest Management Guidelines*.

In the North Valley, Gill's mealybug crawlers have started to emerge. If you are planning on making a Centaur application now is the time.

Now through mid-June is the time to consider using contact materials like Fujimite or acetamiprid, especially if Centaur was not used earlier this year. Currently, GMB crawlers are very susceptible and exposed on the foliage and clusters. These contact materials provide quick knockdown but short residual control. Spray coverage is very important for achieving maximum efficacy with these products (direct contact is needed for control). These materials will reduce the population but not fully control a heavy infestation. Another application targeting the 2nd generation crawler hatch in late July will likely be needed.

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. The best timing for an application is to target the first-generation crawler hatch in early June when most crawlers have hatched. This Fujimite application will also control citrus flat mite and Citricola scale nymphs on the foliage.



Gill's MB Hatching

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.

If your processor allows CENTAUR in season and you did not use it earlier this year, **NOW** through early June is the time to apply Centaur to control Gill's mealybug in pistachio using 34.5 to 46 oz/A + a good silicone or NIS surfactant with 150-200 GPA with a tractor speed of 2 MPH.

Applications of CENTAUR and FUJIMITE are rainfast upon drying (actual times will vary based on weather conditions).

FROSTED SCALE FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Frosted scale nymphs have hatched out and can now be found on the leaves where they will remain feeding for the rest of the season. Contact materials such as Fujimite or acetamiprid provide good control of this pest this time of year, but spray coverage is essential.

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.

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No. Central Valley
North SJV
South Valley

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