



Grape Notes



September 2002

Traditional Trellis DOV System Discussion & Harvest Demonstration

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

8:30 to 10:00 A.M.

**UC Kearney Research Extension Center
9240 South Riverbend Avenue
Parlier, California**



Glassy-winged Sharpshooter is Here to Stay

by Bill Peacock

The Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) made its first appearance in Tulare County in May of 2000 when it was found in Porterville. The Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner along with the residence of Porterville made an extraordinary and concerted effort to contain and control GWSS and keep the rest of Tulare County free from the pest. Unfortunately, GWSS moved north from southeastern Kern County along the citrus belt, and this summer GWSS has been trapped in citrus in eastern Tulare County from the Kern/Tulare county line to Strathmore, an area with 40,000 acres of citrus. At this point ground surveys have shown that, for the most part, populations are very low. GWSS has also been found in deciduous trees and vineyards. It appears that GWSS is here to stay in Tulare County and will continue to move north along the citrus belt.

Three or four years after GWSS first arrived in southeastern Kern County, grapevines began dying from Pierce's disease, and several Red Globe vineyards, a susceptible variety, were removed this year. It should be noted that GWSS populations were extremely high in these vineyards three or four years ago, and the vineyards may have been saved if populations of GWSS were controlled. In order to prevent a PD epidemic in Tulare County, grape growers must keep GWSS numbers at near non-detectable numbers in their vineyards and this will require a regional abatement approach.

Plans for GWSS regional abatement strategies are currently being developed for Tulare County. The Tulare County Ag Commissioner, with the help of growers, industry leaders, and USDA, CDFA and UC, is spearheading a GWSS regional abatement plan. Considerations for the plan will include monitoring GWSS populations using high density trapping along with visual survey, and treatments will occur based on action levels and the migration of GWSS from host to host. The goal is to keep GWSS populations to near non-detectable numbers in vineyards and to slow the northward advance of

the pest in the citrus belt. The vineyard and citrus interface along the east side of southern Tulare County will be emphasized as will the northern front of the infestation in the citrus belt.

Grape growers, particularly those with vineyards near citrus and south of Lindsay, need to be on the lookout for GWSS. Either yellow panel traps or yellow hopper tape can be used to monitor GWSS populations. Both are available at the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner's office along with instructions on how they should be used.

Grape growers must sharpen their skills on identifying PD infected vines and begin a management program for PD. A vine will show symptoms two or three years after the initial infection with the bacteria. Enclosed are publications on identifying diseased vines and approaches to managing PD in vineyards.

New GWSS Infestations Found in Tulare County

by Dennis Haines, Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner's Office

We continue to find new infestations in scattered portions of Tulare County. The latest finds occurred at the Odwalla Juicing facility in Dinuba and K Street Nursery in Tulare. Both localities were detected through our "High Risk" trapping program.

The High Risk program identifies commercial, transportation and residential sites where the perceived risk for the introduction of GWSS is thought to be high. These include major pathways, labor camps, packing facilities, bulk fruit receivers, nurseries and newly landscaped areas.

Subsequent delimitation surveys at Odwalla showed that all life stages of GWSS were present in the ornamentals (crape myrtles and oleanders) on the property and in the next door neighbor's garden

(citrus and okra). Both properties have been treated to eliminate the possibility of further spread.

The source of the GWSS would appear to be field-run citrus shipped directly from Ventura County. Our quarantine staff is presently working with Odwalla to prevent further introductions of GWSS into the area.

The nursery site in Tulare was treated by the nurseryman. A resurvey of the nursery and adjacent properties has found no additional evidence of GWSS.

The southeastern infested portion of Tulare County has not expand further north or west. However, the three proposed quarantine areas continue to fill in. Ultimately, we expect these three areas to become one large one, from just north of Strathmore to the County line. Populations are still very low throughout the areas except in groves in the northeast corner of Porterville and a few groves south of Ducor.

To help identify new areas where GWSS is established, we are asking for the help of the growers here in Tulare County. "Hopper Tape" has been shown to be an excellent tool in locating low level infestations of GWSS. The project in Kern County has offered to make "Hopper Tape" available to us, and we will help any grower who is interested in getting some (especially those of you who are growing grapes in close proximity to citrus).

If you think you have found GWSS, we need to know about it! Only by accurately identifying infested areas can we make reasonable decisions about how to proceed in the future.

In the case where you have a captured specimen, GWSS on sticky tape or in traps, please contact your local agricultural commissioner's office. For those in Tulare County, your contacts for GWSS identifications are Dennis Haines or Daniel Bigham at (559) 685-3323.

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