



Gill's Mealybug Pest Alert™

May 22, 2017
ALERT #4

GILL'S MEALYBUG FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Southern and Central San Joaquin Valley

Gill's mealybug monitoring in pistachios in the Lost Hills, Visalia, Kerman, Coalinga, Five Points, Buttonwillow, and Corcoran areas are showing about 90-100% of adult mealybugs with crawlers. Crawlers can be found under and on the adult females. Adult females will die off as they finish giving birth to all their crawlers. Crawlers have started or will soon start moving out in search of a feeding site.

Starting now through the next couple of weeks would be a good time to begin treating for Gill's mealybug with CENTAUR. Effective rates range from 34.5 oz/A to 46 oz/A. In light to moderate populations, 34.5 oz will perform fine, while in heavy infestations, the higher rate of 40-46 oz/A is encouraged.

Spray coverage is very important to maximize efficacy. 200 GPA is the recommendation along with a good surfactant and a tractor speed of 2 MPH. Make sure you open up lower nozzles on the sprayer to cover the trunk of the trees since this is where a lot of the mealybug is found right now.

CENTAUR® is an Insect Growth Regulator; therefore, targeting an early crawler emergence application. Crawlers will pick up the CENTAUR residue as they move searching for a place to feed.

FROSTED SCALE FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Heavy Frosted scale is being found in pistachio and walnut orchards throughout the Central Valley this year. The majority of the scale eggs are hatching out, and crawlers are moving to the canopy to settle on leaves. Some eggs still remain but will be hatching soon. The adult females are dying off and are no longer a problem. **From now on, through the next 2 to 3 weeks, would be a good time to treat for this scale with CENTAUR.**

Be sure to carefully monitor Gill's mealybug in known hot spots to properly time application of CENTAUR. Right now, look for adult mealybugs with crawlers hiding in the trunk and limbs under the bark.



Adult Mealybug with Crawlers



Adult Mealybug with Crawlers



Frosted Scale Eggs and Crawlers



Frosted Scale Crawler on Leaf

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.

East SJV
West SJV
South/Central SJV
Northern CA

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