

May 11, 2018
ALERT #3

GILL'S MEALYBUG FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Southern and Central San Joaquin Valley

Gill's mealybug monitoring in pistachio in the Lost Hills, Visalia, Laton, Five Points, Corcoran, Huron, and Coalinga areas are showing the populations to be all at the adult stage. Mealybugs plumping up and have settled throughout the tree. Many have also created their "nesting" filaments underneath their bodies which signals that crawler hatch is coming soon. Eggs can be found within most of the adults by now. Some of the most advanced adults in the Lost Hills (10-20%) and Laton (5%) areas have begun giving birth to a few crawlers but most have not started yet.

This week's warm temperatures have moved the mealybug development a bit faster than expected. Expect most adults to begin giving birth to crawlers between May 17th and May 21st.

Centaur® is an Insect Growth Regulator, therefore you should target the beginning of crawler emergence. Crawlers can pick up the Centaur via direct spray contact or by contacting residue as they move searching for a feeding site.

Centaur received its Japanese MRL this past April!

FROSTED SCALE FIELD OBSERVATIONS

The majority of the population is at the adult stage and have laid all their eggs. Similar to the mealybug, the warm temperatures have accelerated the development of Frosted Scale. Eggs have changed color from white to light brown which signals they will begin hatching very soon. In fact, some have already started hatching! **Centaur will also suppress Frosted Scale.**

Be sure to carefully monitor known Gill's mealybug hotspots to properly time application of Centaur. Right now, look for adult mealybugs hiding at the base of clusters and trunks and limbs under the bark.



Gill's Mealybug with Nesting Filaments



Gill's Mealybug Eggs Extracted from Adult



Frosted Scale Eggs and Crawlers

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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