



## Gill's Mealybug Pest Alert™

May 14, 2019  
ALERT #3

### FIELD OBSERVATIONS

#### GILL'S MEALYBUG OBSERVATIONS

Gill's mealybug monitoring in pistachio in the Lost Hills, Visalia, Laton, Five Points, Corcoran, Huron, and Coalinga areas shows the populations to be mainly at the adult stage; however, there is about 10% of the population that is developing a bit slower. Most all mealybugs can be found back in the larger limbs between cracks or under the bark and at the base of spurs or clusters. Mealybugs are all settled, plump, and have begun making the nesting filaments. Eggs are well developed inside their bodies which means that crawlers will be coming soon. Some adults (~20%) have already started putting out crawlers, but none of these have started moving from under the females.

Gill's mealybug development has progressed similar to last year. The recent "cooler" temperatures have not slowed their development much. Based on the current development of the insect, expect to start seeing a major crawler hatch around May 17. Plan to start Gill's mealybug treatments around this time.

Centaur® is an insect growth regulator; therefore, the application should be made to target the beginning of crawler emergence. Crawlers will pick up the residue of Centaur as they move around searching for a feeding site.

Be sure to monitor known Gill's mealybug hot spots carefully to properly time Centaur application. Right now, look for adult mealybugs hiding under the bark in crevices on the trunk and limbs or at the base of pistachio clusters.



#### FROSTED SCALE FIELD OBSERVATIONS



All frosted scale is at the adult stage and have laid all their eggs. Most eggs have begun to change color from white to light brown which means they may start hatching soon. Expect to start seeing frosted scale crawlers around the same time as Gill's mealybug (May 17). There will be some overlap in the crawler hatch between Gill's mealybug and Frosted scale. Centaur will also suppress Frosted scale at this window.

**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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