



# Olive News



March 23, 2005  
Vol. VII, No. 2

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**Sacramento Valley  
Olive Day**

**Olive Fly Update**

**Pre-Registration required  
by Friday, April 15th.  
Glenn Co. Pest Control  
District will meet  
immediately following  
lunch.**

*Bill*

Bill Krueger  
Farm Advisor

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To simplify information, trade names of products have been used. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.

## **Sacramento Valley Olive Day Wednesday, April 20, 2005 Memorial Hall - 327 4th St., Orland**

- 8:00 Registration
- 8:30 Introduction and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (TAA)  
*Bill Krueger, UCCE Glenn County, and Louise Ferguson, UC Olive Specialist*
- 8:40 California Olive Committee Update  
*Jan Nelson, California Olive Committee*
- 9:00 Canner Observations Related to Olive Fly for 2004  
*Musco and/or Bell Carter Representative*
- 9:20 Olive Fly Control with GF 120 and New OLF Insecticides and the Effect of Post Harvest Fruit Removal on OLF Populations.  
*Bob Van Steenwyck, Cooperative Extension Entomologist - UC Berkeley*
- 9:50 Phenology Models for Olive Fly and Olive Tree Development.  
*Hannah Burrack, UCD Entomology Graduate Student*
- 10:30 Break  
*Moderator - Joe Connell, UCCE Butte County*
- 10:50 Biology and Control of Olive Fly and California Research Update  
*Marshall Johnson, UC Ag. Entomologist - Kearney Ag. Center, Parlier*
- 11:30 Olive Fly Trapping Update  
*Tim Ksander, Ag. Advisors, Yuba City*
- 11:40 Pest Control Districts Activities and Updates  
*Representatives for Glenn and Tehama Counties*
- 12:00 Lunch  
*Courtesy of Musco and Bell Carter Olives*

4.5 hrs. of continuing education has been applied for, 1.5 in laws and regulations and 3 in other.

# Olive Fruit Fly Update

Olive Fruit Fly (OLF) populations have increased dramatically in Glenn and Tehama Counties over the last three years. In 2002, there were no reported deliveries of infested fruit at local canneries. In 2003, there were approximately 25 sites which delivered loads with infested fruit. In 2004, this number increased to hundreds of loads delivered with at least some infestation. These dramatic increases emphasize the importance of continued vigilance on the part of growers.

The University recommendations for control of OLF are currently under revision and will be available at the Sacramento Valley Olive Day. Following is a summary of some of the changes that will be in the revised recommendations along with some additional observations and information.

**Trapping.** Research conducted in California in recent years has generally shown the plastic McPhail traps (Fig. 1) baited with Torula yeast to be superior to the yellow sticky traps (AM traps - Fig. 2) baited with sex pheromone and ammonium carbonate or ammonium bicarbonate. Differences in trap catches tend to be greatest during the periods of highest fly activity and less during periods of lower activity. Both trap types will be useful in monitoring flight activity and evaluating the effect of sprays on fly populations. The Champ trap (the yellow sticky trap with the holes) has generally been less effective and is not being recommended. The McPhail trap is a plastic water trap which is baited with Torula yeast tablets containing borax as a preservative which are dissolved in the water reservoir. The Olipe trap is a third type of trap which can be made using 1.5 to 2 litre plastic bottles with four 1 1/64 to 13/64 inch holes melted into the shoulder of the bottle. Three Torula yeast tablets are dissolved in water and the bottle is filled about half full and hung in the trees. While trap efficacy comparisons with this and the other trap types are limited in three sites that I had last year, the McPhail traps caught the most flies (as much as six times as much as the AM trap) and the AM and Olipe traps were comparable in trap catches. This year trap supplies will be available locally through pesticide dealers.



Fig. 1. McPhail Trap

We are recommending that traps be put out early (immediately and by March 1st in future years) to monitor overwintering and emerging flies. At least 2 traps per orchard and one trap per 10 acres are recommended. When significant flies are caught in the orchard, apply a spray to control these flies. Continue to monitor traps and if fly catches increase, spray again. Start your regular spray program about two weeks before pit hardening (around the first of June). It is recommended that treatments be applied to alternate rows every week until harvest. An alternative would be every row every two weeks. In mid summer when temperatures are high and fly activity is low, it may be possible to lengthen out spray intervals. This possibility is currently being researched.

**Treatment.** Apply 14 ounces of GF 120 per treated acre (if you are spraying every other row you are only treating half the acreage). There has been much discussion about the concentration of GF 120 to use. The manufacturer's recommendation is mix one part of GF 120 with 1.5 to 4 parts water. The 1 to 4 mix was commonly used here last year. Some growers and PCAs in the San Joaquin Valley feel that they got better control with 1 to 1.5 dilution. Studies in the laboratory have shown that the higher concentration will kill flies for a longer period of time. However, under extremely high fly populations under coastal conditions better control was achieved with higher dilution rates (1 to 9), presumably the flies ate all of the bait quicker with the lower dilution rate. If you feel that you have a low population, you may want to try a higher concentration as long as it can be practically applied and does not clog your sprayer.



Fig. 2. AM Trap



Despite the fact that OLF has been trapped in the San Joaquin Valley for a longer period than the Sacramento Valley and the trap catches reported by the COC have been as high or higher than catches reported for the Sacramento Valley, with the exception of the Oroville area, very little infested fruit has been delivered from the San Joaquin Valley. Reasons for this difference is of much interest to olive growers and researchers. Research is currently underway to determine the factors involved. Preliminary observations indicate that while both valleys are hot in the summer the duration of heat is longer in the San Joaquin Valley. This may lead to increased fly mortality. A project is currently underway to map microclimates in the two valleys and to use this information to predict insect mortality. This may allow us to reduce spray applications during hot spells.

Fig. 3. OIipe Trap

**Attract and Kill Traps.** GF 120 is currently the only spray available for control of Olive Fly in California. An attract and kill trap manufactured by Agrisense which uses a food attractant and sex pheromone to attract the flies and is impregnated with a pyrethroid insecticide to kill them has just received a registration in California. These traps will be marketed by Monterey Ag. Resources and will be available in limited quantities this year. These traps are hung in the trees and will last for up to 5 months. They are not recommended as a stand alone control under heavy populations. Preliminary results in California indicate that they are not as effective as GF 120 sprays for control of OLF. Research is currently underway to determine how to best use these traps in California. They may be particularly useful in non commercial settings where they could be put up once a season to give some control and hopefully keep populations from exploding.

For more information on OLF, attend the upcoming Sacramento Olive Day, check out our website at [ceglenn.ucdavis.edu](http://ceglenn.ucdavis.edu) or our IPM web site at [ucipm.ucdavis.edu](http://ucipm.ucdavis.edu) or contact me directly at 865-1152. To see the pictures in this newsletter in color, visit our website. You can also sign up to receive our newsletters electronically at our website.

**Sacramento Valley Olive Day Registration Form**  
Print or Type Only

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No.: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form to P. O. Box 697, Orland, CA 95963 or FAX to (530)865-1109 to make your reservation. Please make your reservation before Friday, April 15th.

Glenn County Pest Control District meeting  
immediately following lunch.

# Sacramento Valley Olive Day April 20, 2005 - Orland

Glenn County  
Cooperative Extension  
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Orland, CA 95963

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