



# Olive News

July 27, 2005  
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Farm Advisor

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## Trade Assistance Adjustment Meetings

The Trade Assistance program is designed to assist agricultural producers adjust to foreign import competition through technical and financial assistance. To meet the training requirements for the olive TAA program, an educational program will be presented in various olive growing areas in California. Below is a list of the meeting dates and locations and an agenda for the meetings. It is only necessary to attend one of these meetings at any location to meet the program requirements. A certificate of completion will be presented at the meetings.

While the signup deadline for the program has passed (June 13), it is not too late to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered as a part of the program. The meetings will concentrate on financial management and issues and innovations related to olive production. They should prove valuable to anyone involved with olives. In Glenn and Tehama Counties, these meetings will be available to anyone who is interested. If you would like to attend either the meeting in Corning or Orland and are not signed up for the TAA program, please contact our office at 530-865-1107 or e-mail me at [whkrueger@ucdavis.edu](mailto:whkrueger@ucdavis.edu) so we know how many to expect.

City	Date	Time	Location
Corning	8/11/05	1:30 p.m.	Corning High School Cafeteria, 643 Blackburn Ave.
Orland	8/23/05	9:00 a.m.	Arts & Crafts Building, Glenn County Fairgrounds, 221 East Yolo
Oroville	8/9/05	1:30 p.m.	Butte County Farm Bureau, 258 Feather River Blvd.
Oroville	8/23/05	1:30 p.m.	Butte County Farm Bureau, 258 Feather River Blvd.
Parlier	8/25/05	10:00 a.m.	KAC, 9240 S. Riverbend Ave.
Santa Rosa	9/6/05	9:00 a.m.	County CE Office, 133 Aviation Blvd, Suite 109
Santa Rosa	9/8/05	9:00 a.m.	County CE Office, 133 Aviation Blvd, Suite 109
Visalia	9/1/05	1:00 p.m.	County CE Office, 4437 S. Laspina

## TAA Meeting Agenda

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Welcome, TAA Program Details and Pest Control Districts for Olive Fly (15 minutes)

*Louise Ferguson, UC Olive Specialist*

Introduction to Business Planning (15 minutes)

*Steve Blank, UC Farm Financial Management Specialist*

Olive Production Costs (30 minutes)

*Karen Klonsky, UC Farm Management Specialist*

Olive Production Issues/Innovations (40 minutes)

*UC County Advisor - Bill Krueger for Glenn and Tehama Counties*

Financial and Risk Management (20 minutes)

*Steve Blank, UC Farm Financial Management Specialist*

## Olive Fruit Fly Update

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Every year for the last several, we have seen a dramatic increase in Olive Fly (OLF) populations and damage in Glenn and Tehama Counties. It remains to be seen whether this trend will continue this year. Trap catches from the COC-sponsored trapping that has been done for the last several years in Glenn and Tehama Counties have not increased dramatically from last year and may indicate a leveling off of the population.

Figure 1 shows the average trap catches for five commercial orchards that we have been monitoring around Orland using plastic McPhail traps. This shows an increase in activity in March and April, reduced activity in May and increased activity in June, peaking around June 8th, and then a general decline to the low levels we are currently experiencing. This decline coincides with the onset of heat and spraying in the commercial orchards. The decline in trap catches has been seen even in untreated trees. This trap data is updated regularly and is available on our website at <http://ceglenn.ucdavis.edu>.

The decline in trap catches in unsprayed trees is related to the onset of heat. High temperatures are known to reduce fly activity and increase mortality. In the absence of food and water, OLF will survive only short periods of greater than 95° F. With water and food, survival is greatly increased. During high temperatures, adult flies will reduce activity and stay near a water source. Activity will resume when temperatures decline. Easy access to water and food could reduce heat mortality in fly populations. Honeydew produced by black scale infestations has been shown to be an excellent food source for OLF. Orchards with heavy black scale populations and/or near standing water could potentially have higher OLF populations due reduced heat mortality.

Research on the effect of heat on OLF survival is currently underway. This may eventually allow us to predict when and where heat mortality may become significant and allow us to lengthen spray intervals during hot weather. Currently we do not know enough about this option and continue to recommend that the regular schedule be followed.



*Plastic McPhail Trap*

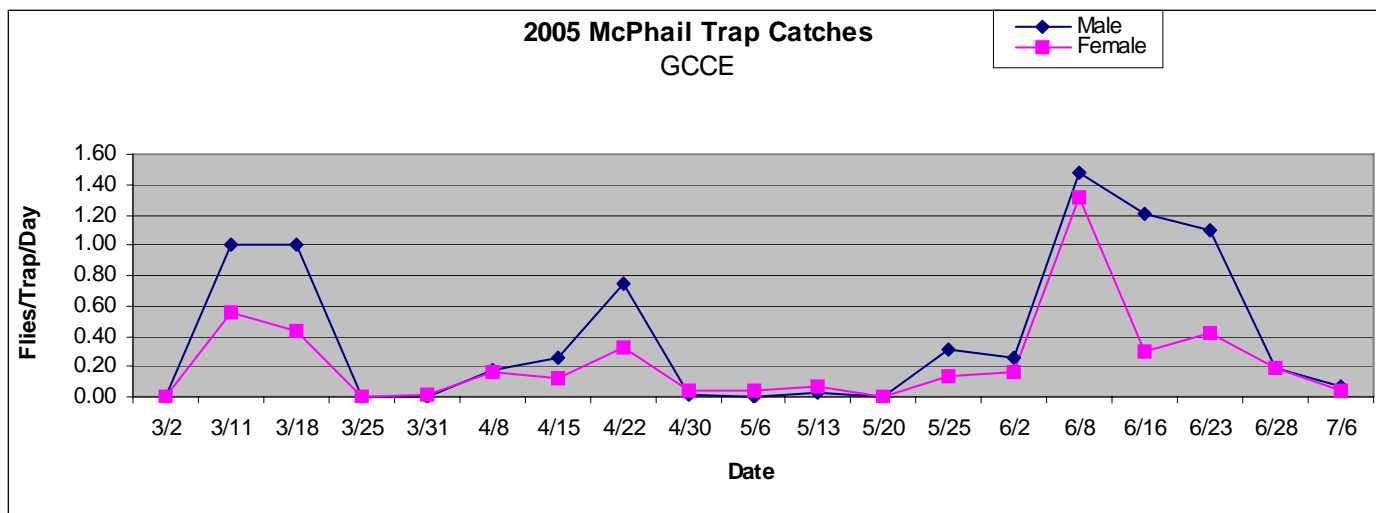


Figure 1. Glenn County 2005 McPhail Trap Catches

## Black Scale

Black Scale is a soft scale which attacks olive trees. Immatures and adults suck sap from the trees and filter it through their bodies for nourishment. The excess sap (honeydew) covers leaves and stems and provides a medium for the growth of the sooty mold fungus. Blackened sticky trees are often what is first noticed. High populations can create a sticky mess which pickers don't like and may reduce the bloom and crop the following year. New evidence also suggests that honeydew may be an excellent food source for adult olive flies.

In this area, the first line of defense against damaging levels of Black Scale is to maintain open airy tree canopies through pruning to allow high temperatures to kill the Black Scale. Black Scale is often worse in dense, unpruned sheltered trees. Black Scale populations may build during and following cool summers. This year's cool spring and early summer may have allowed Black Scale populations to build. Hopefully the heat now will reverse the trend.

Black Scale has one generation per year. If treatment is necessary, it is best applied after the eggs hatch, usually by mid July, but before the scale has a chance to reduce next year's bloom (early August). More information on Black Scale on olives can be obtained by contacting our office at 865-1107, consulting our new production manual or online at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>.

## Olive Fly Brochure Completed

As part of a project sponsored by the CDFA, we have just completed the publication of a brochure for Controlling Olive Fly in Commercial Orchards, printed in both English and Spanish. We are attempting to mail this to every olive grower in Glenn, Tehama and Butte Counties. If you have not received a copy and are interested, you can find this publication on our website (<http://ceglenn.ucdavis.edu>) or receive a copy by contacting our office at 865-1107.

## New Olive Production Manual Available

The second edition of the Olive Production Manual, published in 2005, is now available. This is completely revised and updated from the first edition which was released in 1994. It is available at our office or can be ordered online at <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>. The cost is \$35 plus tax.

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