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Mendocino County European Grapevine Moth Update August 13, 2010

Trapping/Treatment Update No new finds. We have officially recorded one negative generation and are working on the next. The 3rd flight was predicted to begin on August 8th. The recommendation of the UCCE is for growers that were within 200 meters of a moth find this season to apply a larvicide for the 3rd generation. Growers with early varieties should spray around August 15th. Those with later varieties that will be hanging on the vine for a longer period of time should wait 10 to 15 days after start of the flight which would be August 18-23rd. We will be individually contacting those growers by phone next week.

Quarantine Update

I learned on a conference call last night that **USDA has suddenly dropped the tarping requirement for all loads except those that originate from a vineyard that is within 200 meters of a moth find. This is regardless of whether you are leaving the quarantine area or not. Instead of tarping you must slack fill 4 inches from the top for hand picked and 12 inches from the top for machine picked.** Growers wishing to carry more may still tarp and do so. I was told that this decision was made to accommodate for the fact that Lodi went positive last week after finding two moths, and that there was not enough time before harvest for Lodi growers to gear up and tarp the thousands of loads leaving their quarantine area. The counties had no input on this decision. It was made unilaterally by USDA. USDA recognized that logistically, tarping these loads given the time window was difficult at best and believes that the fruit from Lodi is relatively low risk given that no finds were made this season until now.

The Federal Quarantine has been altered to allow for the interstate movement of winegrapes. The conditions for movement require fumigation only if the vineyard is within 200 meters of a positive vineyard. The grapes must be shipped in refrigerated conveyances. Additional trapping is required for the vineyard to qualify. Please contact our office as soon as possible if you wish to ship fruit this year out of state.