UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Blue-green Sharpshooter Trapping Guide

Blue-green sharpshooters (BGSS) are the most prevalent vector of **Pierce's Disease** on the North coast. This guide provides helpful information on trapping and monitoring BGSS in a vineyard.

Trapping placement and guidelines

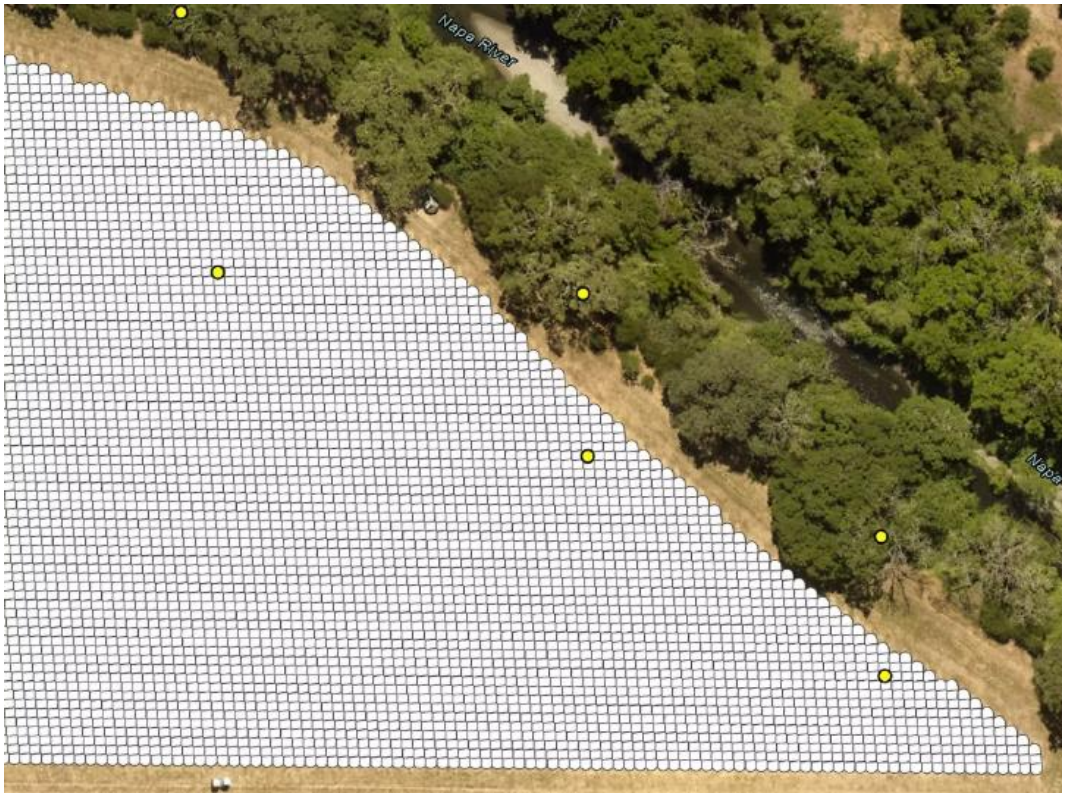
Trap quantity is based on block size. Place a few traps for small blocks (less than two acres); up to one trap for every two to three acres for larger blocks.

Before budbreak, place yellow sticky traps on trellis wires or posts above the canopy. Keep traps 100- 200 feet apart (~30-60m) along vector sources (riparian or ornamental habitat) or areas with historically high PD prevalence.

There are two flights per year, in spring (Mar-May) and mid-summer (Jun- Aug). During these periods, check traps as frequently as 2-3 days, but once a week at minimum. If BGSS are found, record the number of insects and remove them from the trap. Depending on trap counts, follow UC IPM guidelines for management.

Change traps as needed, such as when they are dirty, faded or no longer sticky. The purpose of monitoring is to quantify insect populations, not reduce them.

The figure below displays sample configuration of trap locations for BGSS monitoring.

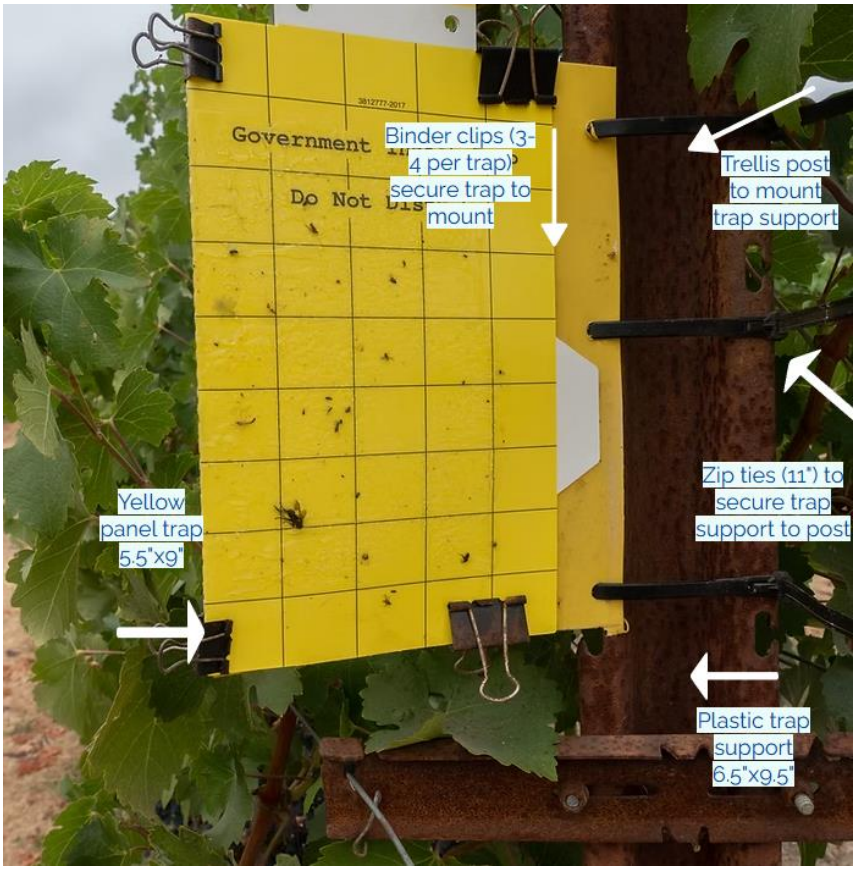


Trap set up and materials

Trapping for BGSS is most commonly done with yellow sticky traps set at the end posts of a vineyard. Below is an example set up and materials list.

Materials

- **Yellow panel sticky traps** [optimal size: 5.5 x 9 in.]
- **Trap supports** built using plastic sheet boards (i.e; HDPE M/M Opaque Sheets from TAP plastics, Santa Rosa, CA).
- **Binder clips** to secure the trap to the support
- **Zip ties** to secure the trap support to trellis posts along vineyard edge



Common BGSS look-a-like

When trapping for BGSS, it is common to come across other insects that look similar. One of the most common look-a-likes is *Thamnotettix zelleri*, a leafhopper that is not a Pierce's Disease vector. Below are a few ways to distinguish between the two.

Blue-green sharpshooters

- blue to green head and thorax
- yellow legs and underside
- distinct head and face markings





Thamnotettix zelleri

- no distinct facial markings
- wider bodies
- muted green color



