

# EDUCATION ON CONTROLLING RISKS THROUGH COLLABORATIVE PEST MANAGEMENT

A Commodity Partnership for Risk Management Education Program

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California agricultural producers face multiple challenges from crop and livestock insect and disease pests. Cutbacks in state and federal programs further complicate the implementation of timely and adequate control programs to manage these threats. A valuable but relatively unknown and underutilized tool is a producer-initiated Pest Control District (PCD). In California there presently exist pest control districts for citrus in Fresno, Kern, Imperial, Riverside, and Tulare counties and for olives in Glenn and Tulare counties. Olive growers in Tehama county and table grape growers in Kern and Tulare counties are exploring the formation of pest control districts to manage olive fruit fly and the glassy-winged sharpshooter, respectively.

**Pest Control Districts** are quasi-governmental organizations with the authority...

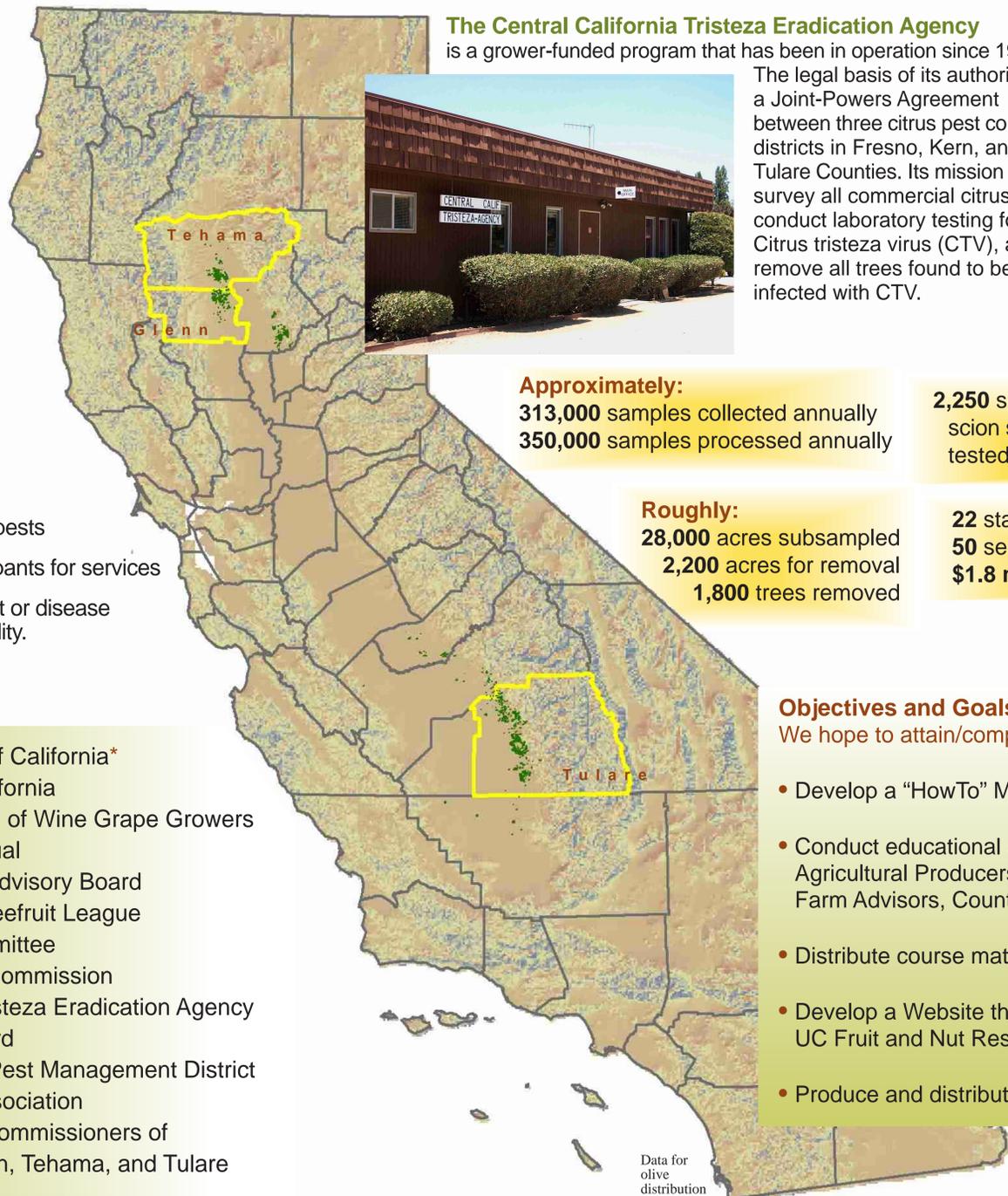
- ...to organize, operate, and govern a district
- ...to inspect, eradicate, remove, or prevent the spread of pests
- ...to levy an annual assessment or fee on affected participants for services
- ...to monitor, research, and support the control of any pest or disease which endangers commercial production of a commodity.

There are many legal steps in the formation of a pest control district. We have received funding from the USDA Risk Management Agency to develop educational "How To" materials and conduct workshops throughout the state to inform and assist producers in the formation and operation of such a district.

## Partners

- Agricultural Council of California\*
- Almond Board of California
- California Association of Wine Grape Growers
- California Citrus Mutual
- California Dried Fig Advisory Board
- California Grape & Treefruit League
- California Olive Committee
- California Pistachio Commission
- Central California Tristeza Eradication Agency
- Citrus Research Board
- Glenn County Olive Pest Management District
- Prune Bargaining Association
- County Agricultural Commissioners of Butte, Fresno, Glenn, Tehama, and Tulare

\*Represents 40 agricultural cooperatives and their 20,000 producer-owners



## MAPPING:

Identification and location of affected hosts via satellite imagery, aerial photography, and ground visits. GPS coordinates are used to track plantings. District operations are funded by assessments based on tree count or acreage.

## Objectives and Goals

We hope to attain/complete the following:

- Develop a "HowTo" Manual on district formation and operation
- Conduct educational and training workshops for Agricultural Producers and Agribusiness Professionals, Farm Advisors, County Agricultural Personnel
- Distribute course materials, brochures
- Develop a Website through UC Fruit and Nut Research and Information Center
- Produce and distribute a CD-Rom

Data for olive distribution derived from the State of California Department of Water Resources.

URL:  
<http://www.landwateruse.water.ca.gov/basicdata/landuse/landusesurvey.cfm>

California graphic provided by the GIS Facility at the University of California Kearney Agricultural Center



Olives infested with olive fruit fly caused the rejection of olives by processors in Butte County in 2003. This resulted in the formation of the Glenn County Olive Pest Management District and the Tulare County Olive Pest Control District.

