



News from the DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Carol N. Hafner, Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Today, USDA's Systematic Entomology Laboratory confirmed the capture of two European grapevine moths (EGVM), *Lobesia botrana*, trapped on April 28, in two separate traps about ½ mile apart and placed in vineyards southeast of the city of Fresno. These traps were part of a statewide program to detect this invasive moth. As a result of the finds, additional traps were placed in an approximately 80 square mile area around the discoveries by Fresno County and CDFA staff. An additional EGVM was found May 1, in the Kingsburg area, approximately 11 miles from the original find site. County, state, and federal officials are developing an agriculture quarantine to prevent the human aided movement of the moth. Treatment options for the EGVM include traditional and organic ovicides and larvicides as well as mating disruption. These activities are designed to give both domestic and foreign trading partners confidence that products moving in commerce are free of EGVM.

The Fresno County Department of Agriculture and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) currently have over 5,000 EGVM traps in place throughout the county. Fresno County will continue to monitor traps in the county and in the quarantine area to determine the area where the pest is present.

European grapevine moth was first detected in Napa County in September of 2009. Since that time, EGVM has been found in Sonoma, Solano and Mendocino counties where eradication efforts are on-going.

EGVM is a grape pest of economic importance in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, southern Russia, Japan and recently Chile. The larva feed on grape flowers and developing fruit. Second and third generations cause the most damage by direct feeding on mature grape berries and indirectly by predisposing the crop to grey mold, a fungal infection caused by *Botrytis cinerea*. Damage is greatest in grape cultivars with compact clusters or sensitive to rot

If you find a suspect moth, please contact the Fresno County Department of Agriculture at (559) 456-7510.



EGVM Adult moth about ¼ inch long



EGVM larvae showing variable color
Older stages are darker in color
Up to ½ inch long