

Ask Laura for April 2013

Steve Tjosvold, Environmental horticulture Farm Advisor, UCCE

Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) Field Data Available for Use by Monterey Bay Area Growers

We are monitoring LBAM populations and plant host range on the perimeters of 8 production sites in Santa Cruz County and north Monterey County. We launched a web page that contains current data that should be immediately useful to growers. For 2011 and 2012, this data shows a relatively synchronized peak moth emergence in early November in all monitored areas. We predict that mostly large larvae and pupae will be found now in crops and their large shelters will be relatively easy for scouts to find. Adults from the brood produced during the November flight will be emerging now that the weather is warming. For the 16 month period that data has been collected, the greatest numbers of larvae have been found on Coyote Bush (*Baccharis pilularis*), French broom (*Genista monspessulana*), Dovefoot geranium (*Geranium molle*), Buckhorn plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*) and wild radish (*Raphanus raphanistrum*). There are 26 different host species that have been identified so far. The website currently contains population data and other information that growers could reasonably predict the presence of adult emergence, egg laying, and subsequent life stages in the field. It can be accessed through the UCCE Santa Cruz homepage: <http://cesantacruz.ucanr.edu/>.

For questions, please contact Steve Tjosvold at 831-763-8013 or satjosvold@ucanr.edu. This research was funded by a Specialty Crop Block Grant (CDFA/USDA).