Dear All,

This is the Potato Psyllid Survey Report for December 22, 2010.

The surveys are reported here are conducted by,

John Goolsby, USDA-ARS, Weslaco;

Texas Agrilife Extension collaborators;

Noel Troxclair, Pearsall/Uvalde; Pat Porter, Halfway/Olton; Ed Bynum, Dalhart; Phil Sloderbeck, K-State, Garden City; Jeff Bradshaw, Univ. of Nebraska, Scottsbluff, NE; Ben Zechmann, CSS Farms, Minden, NE. The molecular pathology work is being done by Jim Crosslin and Joe Munyaneza (USDA-ARS Prosser & Wapato, WA).

Please note that fields at the USDA-ARS Farm in Weslaco, TX (UTC) are untreated controls. Four untreated controls will be planted, each separate from the other, at 4 planting dates: Nov. 18, Dec 15, Jan 5, & Jan 19. An experimental field (MAB) has been planted at Moore Airbase in the LRGV and the results of the tests will be reported by Don Henne (TX Agrilife - Weslaco). The field at Moore Airbase will be farmed using commercial methods, and used to test the latest IPM strategies on a large scale. Untreated controls will also be planted in Uvalde, Halfway, Dalhart and Garden City. The LRGV, Pearsall, Olton and Dalhart locations are commercial potato fields with intensive IPM programs to control potato psyllids.

Methods: The potato psyllid adults in each field are monitored with 5 yellow sticky card traps that are changed weekly. The traps are placed in a sequence #1 at 30 ft. inside the field with each trap placed each 200 ft towards the center of the field. Egg and nymphal populations of potato psyllid are sampled each week by collecting 100 mature, fully expanded, lower canopy potato leaves (4-10 leaflets) at 10 locations on the perimeter of each field.

The field locations for the Lower Rio Grande Valley are: Wallace fields W1, W20, W13; Burns B28; In Pearsall, Black Gold and Premium Source commercial fields are: BG 1, BG 2 and PS1. The Uvalde UTC is noted as UvUTC. This field is located at the Uvalde Texas Agrilife Experiment Station 50 miles from Pearsall. The Halfway UTC is noted as (HaUTC) and will be planted at the Texas Agrilife farm in Halfway 10 miles from Olton. The Olton commercial field in Olton is noted as (OL1). The Dalhart UTCs are to be determined. The Dalhart UTC is noted as (DaUTC) and is planted on a partial pivot near the commercial fields. The Garden City UTC will be located at the experiment station 5 miles to the north of the commercial fields. In Nebraska commercial fields and UTCs are planted in Minden, Alliance and Scottsbluff.

The insecticide applications and dates will be listed for each growing area by field. Adult potato psyllids are removed from the traps and tested for the presence of the putative ZC pathogen, Candidatus Liberibacter psyllaurous. The percentage of psyllids that test positive for this pathogen is noted by date.

In the Lower Rio Grande Valley,

Week 1 (0/0),

Week 2 (Nov. 27-Dec 5) 1/13,

Week 3, (0/0)

Week 4, 7 adults were captured on the traps on the pre-season transect.

More than 20 non-potato psyllids have been collected in the traps over the past 4 weeks. These psyllids have been tested for Liberibacter and are all negative. The Weslaco UTCs will be planted Dec 15, Jan 2, and Jan 15 with Atlantics.

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