



UPDATE FROM THE VENTURA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

PRESENTED SEPTEMBER 19, 2019

ED WILLIAMS, AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER



DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

- The Agricultural Commissioner's Office has four divisions
- Pesticide Use Enforcement
- Pest Management
- Inspection and Compliance
- Pest Exclusion/Quarantine





PESTICIDE USE ENFORCEMENT OVERVIEW

- Permit Issuance and Review
- Pre-Site Evaluations
- Application Inspections
- Headquarters and Storage Inspections
- Fieldworker Safety Reviews
- Structural Enforcement
- Outreach and Recycling Events





PESTICIDE PROGRAM CHANGES

- Hemp Registration and Regulation Program
- New Tarp Evaluation Agreement with DPR
- Chlorpyrifos deregistration by DPR, Phase out period
- \$5.3 M to search for suitable alternatives





INDUSTRIAL HEMP PROGRAM

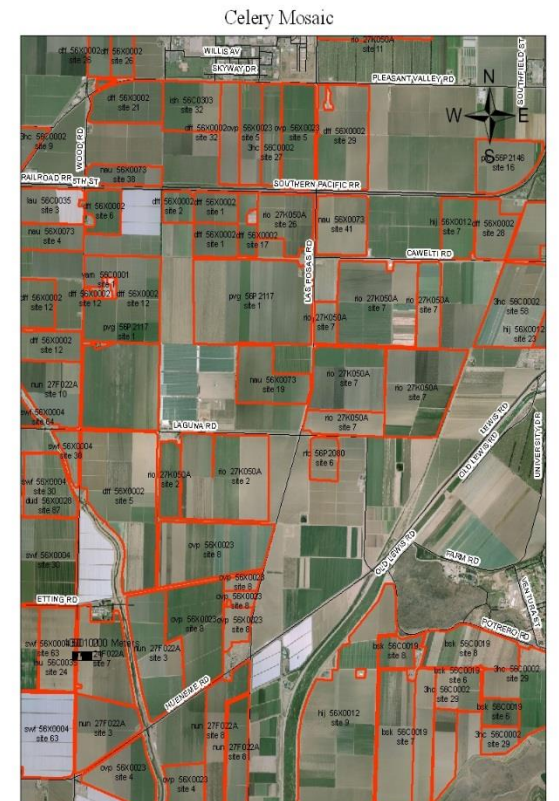
- VCAC to register commercial seed and crop producers
 - \$900 state registration fee
 - Board may establish a local cost recovery fee
 - 13 Registered to date in VC
- Emergency Regulations just published for sampling and testing





PEST MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW

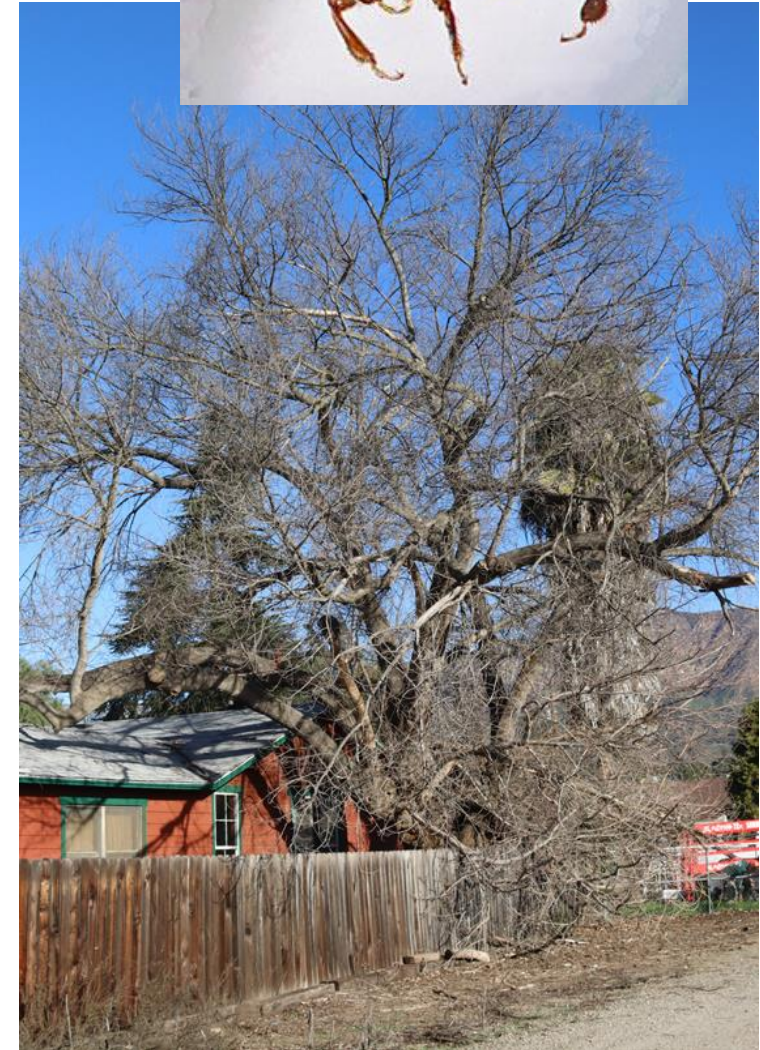
- Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter Nursery Inspection Program
- Weed Management
- Invasive Shot-hole Borer Trapping
- Light Brown Apple Moth Trapping
- Toland Dump Vertebrate Hazing
- Celery Mosaic Virus Enforcement





INVASIVE SHOT-HOLE BORER PROGRAM

- State Grant Funding \$5M CDFA & \$5M CalFire
- Detect, eradicate or manage new infestations
- Identify and manage pathways such as green waste and firewood
- Outreach & education
- Research ways to stop or control





INVASIVE WEED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- Impact wildland and urban forests, agriculture lands, wetlands, watersheds
- Affect homeowners, farmers & ranchers, parks, waterways, groundwater, recreation
- VCAC \$60,000 for two year project

Detect/survey, map, control, eradication, outreach, training

Collaborate with interested partners





INSPECTION & COMPLIANCE OVERVIEW

- Produce Standardization, Organic, Farmers' Markets
- Crop Report/Disaster Assessment
- Asian Citrus Psyllid/Citrus Greening Disease Bulk Citrus
- Abandoned Orchard Abatement
- Bee Safe Program
- Green Waste Monitoring





UNTREATED ORCHARD ABATEMENT PROGRAM

- Three citrus orchards have been identified as abandoned to date
- Two warning notices have been issued
- Second notice is going out on one
- One has indicated they are taking steps to correct problems



Photo by sccgov.org



BEE SAFE PROGRAM

- CDFA Contract
- Colony registration, quarantine, markings, colony theft prevention, outreach for forage improvement, pesticide notifications to beekeepers, bee health checks





GREEN WASTE MONITORING PROGRAM

- Multiple invasive pest threats, Increased Pesticide Use, Loss of Markets, Fire Conditions
- Compliance Agreements
- Surveillance, Monitoring and Enforcement





PEST EXCLUSION OVERVIEW

- Phytosanitary Certification
- High Risk Pest Exclusion
- Nursery Inspection Program
- Sudden Oak Death Program
- Seed Inspection Program





HIGH RISK CONTRACT INCREASE

- Checks incoming shipments for invasive pests and diseases
- FedEx, UPS, Parcels
- Nursery Stock and Produce from other states
- Specialty Markets



QUESTIONS??



OUR MISSION:

TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE AGRICULTURE,
WHILE ENSURING THE WELFARE OF THE PUBLIC,
THE INDUSTRY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT.