

Ask Laura for January 2013

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What is the current status of research on Light Brown Apple Moth ?

The Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) is an important invasive pest for California, and has become established throughout much of California's central coast. It is a regulated pest in ornamental and fruit crops important to the central coast economy. We have been conducting research in Santa Cruz and Monterey counties to aid in LBAM detection and management since 2007. To aid in our understanding of the population dynamics of LBAM, we are currently monitoring LBAM populations in natural vegetation and weeds surrounding local production nurseries and berry fields. We trap adult moths with LBAM-pheromone baited Delta traps and bucket traps baited with brown sugar solution.

Where can I find this local monitoring data?

We have always shared our data with growers and farmers through meetings and informative handouts. Recently we launched a website that contains current trap data around production areas in Santa Cruz County and north Monterey County. Proper understanding and use of the data will allow growers to improve control measures by allowing for more accurate timing of treatments, ultimately leading to fewer treatments and fewer chemicals in the environment. The website can be accessed through our home page <http://cesantacruz.ucanr.edu/> or directly by going to <http://cesantacruz.ucanr.edu/files/155784.pdf>.

For questions, please contact Steve Tjosvold at 831-763-801 or satjosvold@ucanr.edu. This research was funded by a Specialty Crop Block Grant (CDFA/USDA).