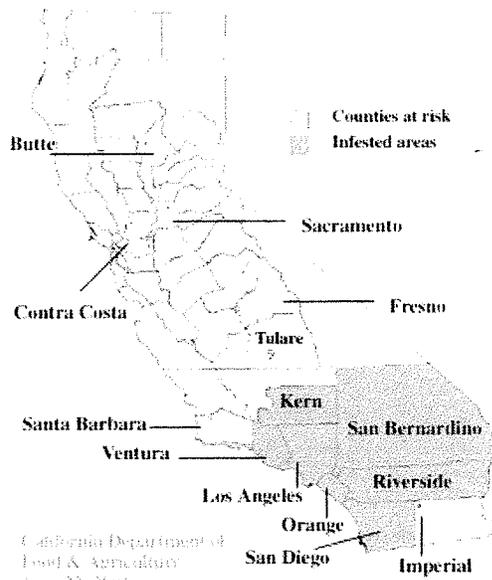


From: Citizen's Coalition for a Safe Community <800CCSC@GMail.com>
Subject:
Date: December 9, 2010 5:29:30 PM PST
1 Attachment, 34.9 KB

What plants does the sharpshooter damage?

GWSS feed on a wide variety of plants with little noticeable damage. As mentioned above, GWSS are capable of transmitting *Xylella* bacterial diseases that are usually fatal to susceptible species of plants. Currently, plants at immediate risk to these diseases include commercial grapes (wine, table grape, raisins), almonds, oleander and to a lesser extent alfalfa. Certain strains of *Xylella* can also seriously affect citrus (citrus variegated chlorosis) and stone fruits (phony peach disease). At this

Distribution of GWSS in California



time, the strains of *Xylella* causing ia.

From: Citizen's Coalition for a Safe Community <800CCSC@GMail.com>
Subject:
Date: December 9, 2010 6:32:00 PM PST

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Oleander leaf scorch is a disease found mainly in southern California. It is caused by the bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa*, which is the same species (although a different strain) that causes Pierce's disease of grapevines and almond leaf scorch. The strain of *X. fastidiosa* that causes oleander leaf scorch will not cause Pierce's disease, so removing oleanders will not reduce the source of *X. fastidiosa* that can affect grapes. As with other diseases caused by *X. fastidiosa*, the bacterium is vectored by insects, primarily sharpshooters, which feed on the water-conducting tissue (xylem) of the plant.

This disease was first noticed on oleanders in the Palm Springs-Indio area of Riverside County and in Tustin (Orange County) in the early 1990s and has spread to other parts of southern California including Santa Barbara, Ventura, San Diego, San Bernardino, and Los Angeles counties. Evidence to date suggests that the disease resulted from the introduction of a strain of *X. fastidiosa* new to California. The disease has now been reported across the southern United States. While the disease has not yet been recorded north of Santa Barbara County, it is believed that it could spread north through California's Central Valley and along the coast where the glassy-winged sharpshooter is established. Oleanders affected by this disease decline and then die, usually within 3 to 5 years of the first symptoms. There is no known cure.