



County of Fresno

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
MELISSA CREGAN
 AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/
 SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES

Temporary Local Emergency Declaration for Beet Curly Top Virus in Fresno County within the indicated Townships, Ranges and Sections in Fresno County (located west of the Fresno Slough).

Effective April 23, 2024, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors and CAO have declared a local emergency pursuant to Government Code section 8630 and Title 3, California Code of Regulations (3CCR) section 6990, allowing for neonicotinoid pesticides to be applied to tomatoes for control of the beet leafhopper (BLH), the vector of Beet Curly Top Virus, a disease known to cause serious crop damage.

This local emergency declaration is in response to increases in populations of BLH in the coastal range and agricultural areas located west of the Fresno Slough. The neonicotinoid regulatory package (3CCR Article 2 sections 6990-6990.16) that went into effect January 1, 2024 restricts and limits certain uses of neonicotinoid pesticides on various crop groups. 3CCR section 6990(c)(2) states the following applications are not subject to this article: an application made to address a local emergency pursuant to Government Code section 8630 or a local emergency declared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture or the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The operator of the property shall obtain the written recommendation from a licensed agricultural pest control adviser and retain the written recommendation for at least two years after the application occurs.

Township	Range(s)	Section(s)
10	13	All
11	12-13	All
12	11-14	All
13	10-14	All
13	15	7, 18, 19, 30-32
14	10-14	All
14	15	5-8, 16-22, 25-36
15	11-15	All
15	16	31-33
16	12-15	All
16	16	2-36
16	17	17-23, 25-36
16	18	31, 32
17	13-17	All
17	18	4-10, 15-22, 25-36
18	13-18	All
19	12-18	All
20	12-18	All
21	13-18	All
22	13-17	All
23	15-16	All

The Agricultural Commissioner suggests all Product Use Recommendations and Pesticide Use Reports reflect BLH as the target pest. The Product Use Recommendations should contain the following statement,

“This recommendation is made in accordance with 3CCR section 6690(c) as an application made to address a local emergency issued by Fresno County on April 23, 2024.”

This local emergency declaration does not supplant pesticide product labeling requirements for use. Therefore, the use of any pesticide shall not conflict with its product labeling.

This local emergency declaration allows for applications of such pesticides on an emergency basis so that commercial tomato growers west of the Fresno Slough can specifically treat for BLH in Fresno County and is in effect for sixty (60) days, after which the need for the local emergency shall be reviewed by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, CAO, and Agricultural Commissioner to determine whether to continue the local emergency or to terminate it.