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Pest Detection Program Update

The Agriculture Department is pleased to provide an update on our Pest Detection Program, a vital initiative to safeguard our region's agricultural economy. This program conducts surveillance and trapping for invasive pests that threaten crops such as wine grapes, pears, apples, timber, and other host plants. Targeted pests include exotic fruit flies (Mediterranean, Oriental, Mexican, Peach, Melon, and others), European Grapevine Moth (EGVM), Glassy-Winged Sharpshooters (GWSS), Japanese Beetles, Spongy Moths, European Grape Berry Moth (EGBM), and Summer Fruit Tortrix Moths. These pests could have a profound economic impact if not monitored and controlled.

Funded primarily through Federal USDA and State CDFA contracts, our program ensures robust monitoring to enable early detection and rapid response. We recently passed a CDFA inspection, successfully identifying two planted exotic fruit flies (Mediterranean and Oriental), confirming the effectiveness of our protocols.

Trap Status as of August 31, 2025:

- **Mediterranean Fruit Fly (Med Fly):** 65 traps, to be removed by November 17, 2025.
- **Melon Fly:** 22 traps, to be removed by November 17, 2025.
- **Oriental Fruit Fly:** 22 traps, to be removed by November 17, 2025.
- **Japanese Beetle:** 31 traps, removal began September 2, 2025, with 100% removal by September 19, 2025.
- **Spongy Moth (formerly Gypsy Moth):** 245 traps, removal began September 2, 2025, with 100% removal by September 19, 2025.
- **European Grapevine Moth (EGVM):** 471 traps, removal began September 2, 2025, with 100% removal by September 19, 2025.
- **Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter (GWSS):** 197 traps (74 in 10 nurseries, 123 in residential areas), to be removed by October 31, 2025.
- **European Grape Berry Moth (EGBM):** 57 traps, to be removed with EGVM by September 19, 2025.
- **Summer Fruit Tortrix Moth:** 14 traps, to be removed by September 19, 2025.

As the trapping season concludes, EGVM trap removal is underway, with remaining pest detection traps scheduled for removal by mid-October, except for Med Fly, Melon Fly, and Oriental Fruit Fly traps, which will be removed by November 17, 2025. Our team remains committed to protecting Mendocino County's agricultural heritage, and we appreciate the support of our federal and state partners in this critical county work.

Weights & Measures Program Update

As the Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer of Weights & Measures for Mendocino County, I am pleased to report on the progress of our Weights & Measures Program. This program ensures an equitable marketplace for agricultural and industrial commodities by conducting thorough inspections of commercial weighing and measuring devices.

Currently, we are completing inspections for Heavy Capacity Scales (100,000 lb.) and Intermediate Capacity Scales (2,000 to 10,000 lb.). These scales are critical for accurately weighing commodities such as timber, grapes, livestock, and other bulk goods, ensuring fair trade and consumer confidence in Mendocino County's markets.

Additionally, we are addressing the need to replace our specialized weight-carrying and moving vehicles used for testing these scales. These vehicles are essential for conducting precise inspections but are costly to maintain and operate. We are actively exploring options to modernize our equipment to improve efficiency and reduce long-term costs while maintaining the high standards of our inspection program.

The Weights & Measures Program remains dedicated to fostering fairness and accuracy in commerce, supporting Mendocino County's agricultural and industrial sectors.