



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PS- #1105
Pesticide Applications for the Control of the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter**

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Updated December 9, 2010

Questions Received 12/7/10 (#1):

We will be interested in this above RFP but would appreciate your help to know how much is the current budget for this control measures or how much was spent last year.

As detailed in the Project Scope of RFP PS-#1105, this infestation of glassy-winged sharpshooter was first detected in September 2010, and this is the first such infestation detected in San Luis Obispo County, therefore there were no funds expended for this project last year. There is not a set budget in place for the activities being proposed in 2011. There are an expected 60 properties that need to be treated in order to control the glassy-winged sharpshooter infestation as currently delineated. That number could increase if additional detections of glassy-winged sharpshooter are detected which would expand both the quarantine and proposed treatment areas.

Questions Received 12/7/10 (#2):

1. Has this job ever gone out to bid before?

As detailed in the Project Scope of RFP PS-#1105, this infestation of glassy-winged sharpshooter was first detected in September 2010, and this is the first such infestation detected in San Luis Obispo County. This is the first RFP for a pesticide applicator to control glassy-winged sharpshooter in San Luis Obispo County because the project just began this year.

2. When was the last contract effective (Dates of Contract)?

Not applicable.

3. Winning Contract Name and the Winning Bid amount?

Not applicable.

4. If possible, I would like to see the Bid Tabulation results for the past/current contract.

Not applicable.

5. Last Service Date?

Not applicable.

6. Have there been any changes to the scope of work since the last contract?

Not applicable.

Questions received 12/6/10:

1) Do you have a specific brand/model of a soil probe that you recommend?

We don't have a specific recommendation, but would point out that these are going to be getting heavy use. Contractors in outside counties were using GPI (Great Plain Industries) soil probes with foot plates; they found the foot plates helpful due to the large number of injections being made. Rittenhouse, Chemlance, and other companies manufacture soil probes (also called rootfeeders). Some may not come with a liquid flow meter or a foot plate, but those can typically be added.

2) In addition, are you requiring two probes that would each be run off of the same rig each with a separate hose reel?

Correct. The soil injection method is effective but time consuming. From experience on similar projects in other counties, utilizing two soil probes from the same rig is the most efficient application method.

3) Would a motorized backpack mist blower, i.e. Stihl SR420, suffice for the foliar applications?

No. If foliar applications are needed, the areas needing treatment could be substantial and a backpack applicator would be inefficient. In addition, a mist blower would likely raise drift concerns considering these applications will be taking place in a residential neighborhood, and a mist blower could potentially conflict with insecticide label requirements, depending on the products used.

4) Is there a minimum number of days?

No. There are an expected 60 properties that need to be treated in order to control the glassy-winged sharpshooter infestation as currently delineated. That number could increase if additional detections of glassy-winged sharpshooter are detected which would expand both the quarantine and proposed treatment areas.

Pesticide Applications for the Control of the Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions received 12/9/10:

1) After reviewing the label for Merit, the foliar rate is 1.6 oz per 300 gallons and the soil injection rate is 1.6 oz per 24-48 inches of trunk diameter. Unless we are missing something, please explain how a single spray rig can be used for two different rates because obviously one wouldn't apply 300 gallons to one 24 inch diameter tree utilizing the soil injection method. The way we see it, one must have two completely independent rigs for mixing and loading the two different rates especially considering a surfactant must be used for the foliar applications.

Correct, the imidacloprid use rates are very different for subsoil injection and foliar applications. Rigs can be equipped with two separate tanks which allows for mixing and loading of products at two different rates (or in some cases completely different products). If a rig with dual tanks is not available, a second rig could be used to make the foliar applications.

2) You indicated a mist blower couldn't be used. Using a low pressure foliar application, tree height comes into play. 25 psi (considered low pressure) won't reach very high into a tree. What is the maximum tree height that would need to be covered?

It is anticipated that subsoil injections will be the primary applications required, and will be needed for the many different host plants that glassy-winged sharpshooters utilize. Foliar applications may also be needed for preferred host plants and certain species that by label cannot be treated via subsoil injections. The preferred host plants that will likely need foliar applications will primarily be shrubs and small trees, e.g. Xylosma shrubs, photinia, citrus, and crape myrtle. In this neighborhood, the maximum tree height that would need to be covered is approximately 15 feet high, and most will be substantially lower than that.

In addition, the pressure used on the foliar applications is not set in stone. Pressure can be adjusted in order to make an effective application. We are not requiring that all applications be made at 25 psi or lower, but we are trying to avoid high pressure applications (100 psi or greater) that will increase the likelihood of insecticide drift off-target.
