

June 23, 2023

# Mint Pest Alert Newsletter

## -Central Oregon

Welcome to the 2023 Mint Pest Alert. This year will be the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the Mint Pest Alert! This newsletter is intended to help you make management decisions about how best to control mint root borer (MRB), variegated cutworm (VC), and loopers in your mint fields. You will receive predictions about when MRB and VC are expected reach certain developmental stages, and results from traps and field scouting in your region. MRB Traps were placed in two fields on June 1.

The predictions provided in this newsletter are based on growing degree-day (GDD) models. Many organisms grow faster at warmer temperatures, and don't grow at all when it is too cold. These models tally up the amount of GDDs (aka heat units) each day based on the high and low temperature. Based on past research, we know how many GDDs are needed before the insects reach certain growth stages. We use this information, combined with weather forecasts, to predict when insect growth stages will occur.

One MRB was captured the week of June 6, but no MRB were captured on June 13 or 20. The GDD model predicted first moth catch on June 3 and 8 in Madras and Powell Butte, respectively, and peak moth catch is expected on July 7 and 16. First instar larvae of VC are expected to peak on June 29 near Madras and July 6 near Powell Butte.



**Oregon State University**  
Extension Service

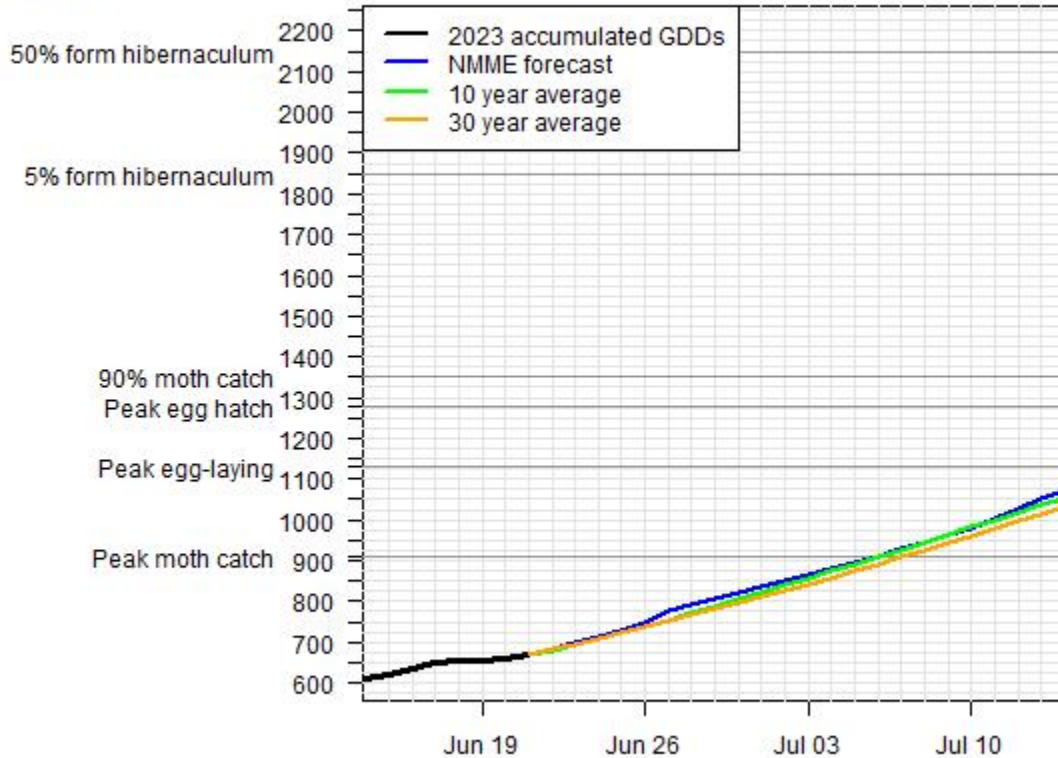
Questions? Contact

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## Mint Root Borer Development at Madras Weather Station

Accumulated GDDs  
base 50 °F



## Variegated Cutworm Development at Madras Weather Station

Accumulated GDDs  
base 41 °F

