

June 23, 2023

# Mint Pest Alert Newsletter

## Northeastern 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. Traps were installed this week.

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.

First MRB moth catch was expected on June 4 and 11 in Imbler and Baker Valley, respectively. Peak MRB moth catch is forecasted for July 9 and 18, respectively. For VC in Imbler, peak egg-laying was on June 17 and peak first instar larvae is expected on June 30. In Baker Valley, peak VC egg-laying is expected on June 27 with first instar larvae peaking on July 27.



**Oregon State University**  
Extension Service

Questions? Contact

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To sign up for this newsletter contact

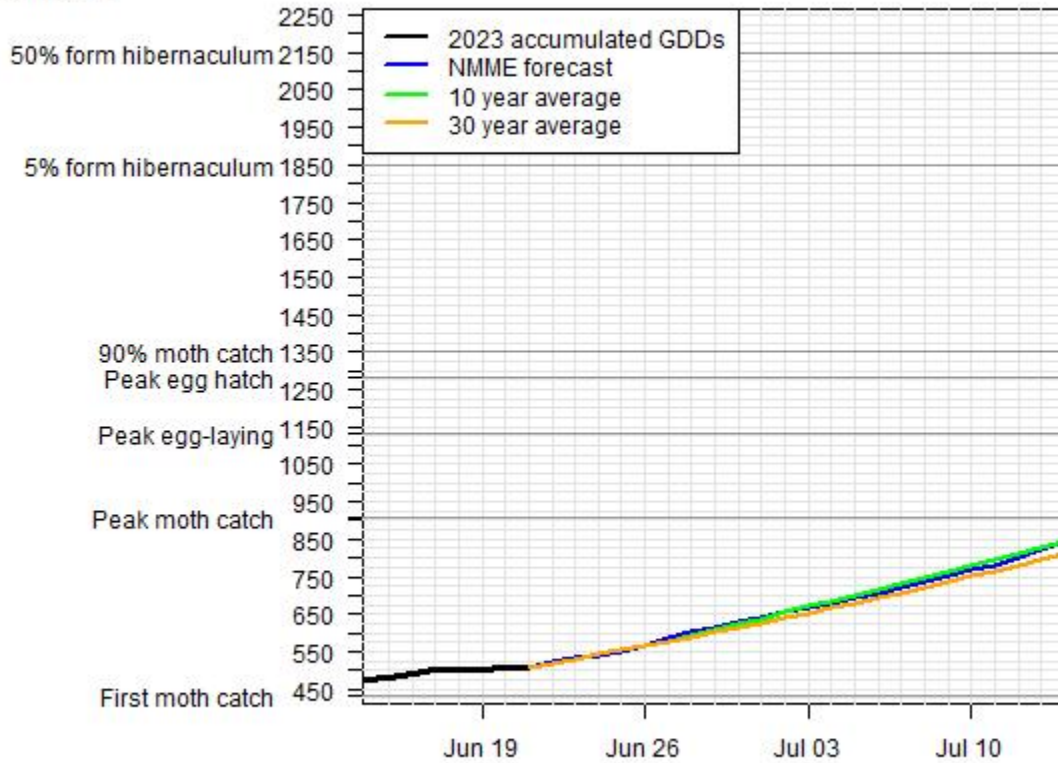
Christy Tanner: [Christy.tanner@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Christy.tanner@oregonstate.edu)

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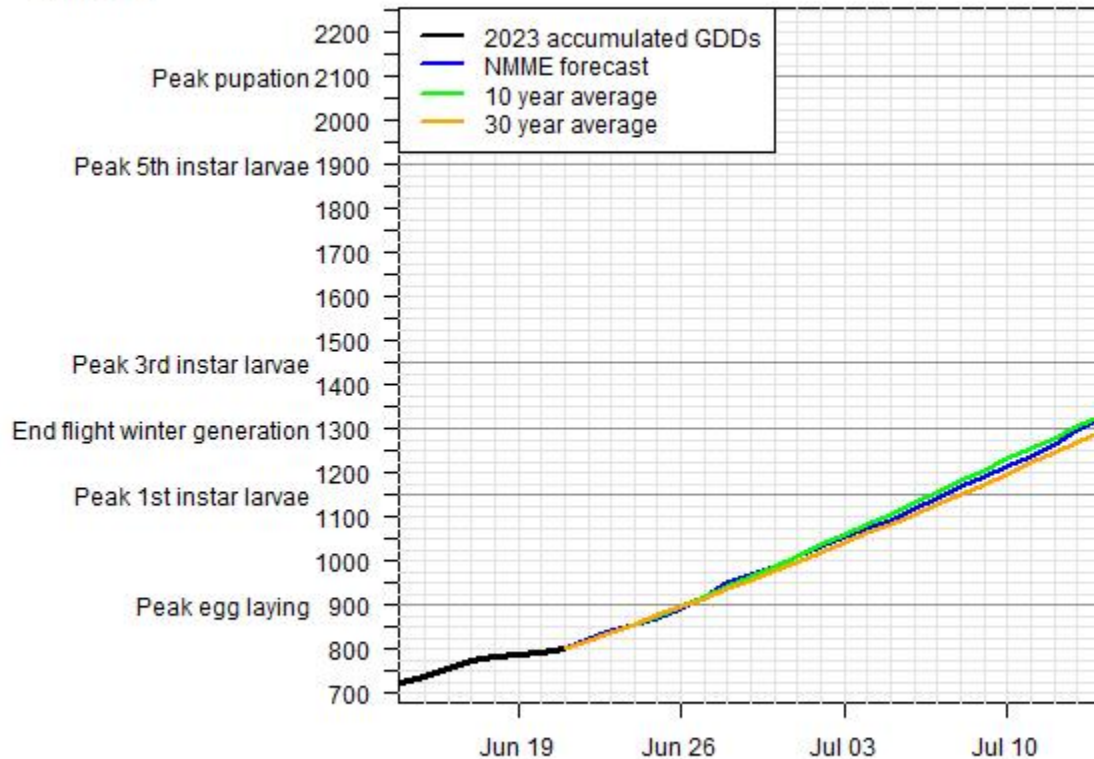
## Mint Root Borer Development at Baker Valley Weather Station

Accumulated GDDs  
base 50 °F



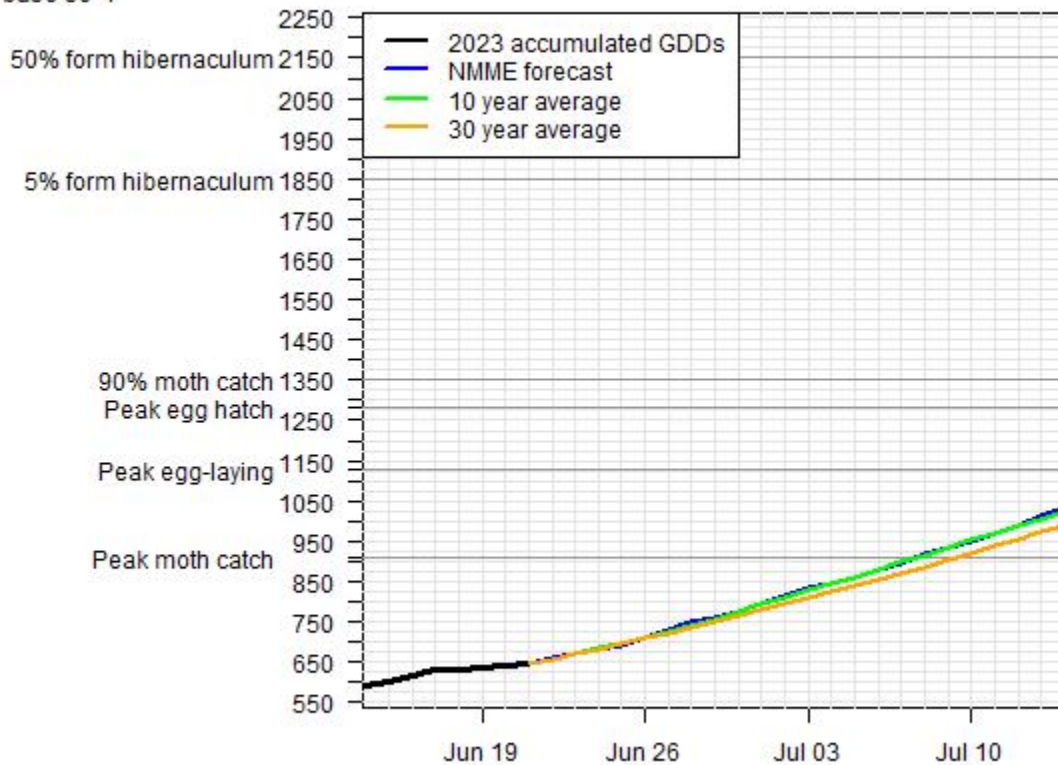
## Variegated Cutworm Development at Baker Valley Weather Station

Accumulated GDDs  
base 41 °F



## Mint Root Borer Development at Imbler Weather Station

Accumulated GDDs  
base 50 °F



## Variegated Cutworm Development at Imbler Weather Station

Accumulated GDDs  
base 41 °F

