

California State University, Fresno
Department of Biology presents

Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter Communication: We Heard it [Directly] Through the Grapevine



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Research Service,
Parlier, CA

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Science II 109

In leafhoppers, mate recognition and localization are mediated exclusively via substrate-borne vibrational signals transmitted through the plant. Exploitation of attractive vibrational signals for trapping leafhoppers or disrupting mating, as well as excluding pests via emission of repellent signals have been considered, but not yet implemented in commercial agricultural landscapes. In California, the glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWSS), *Homalodisca vitripennis* (Germar) (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae), is one of the main vectors of the bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa*, the causal agent of Pierce's disease in grapevines. Existing knowledge on GWSS communication is insufficient to implement a management program for this pest in California. Therefore, an ongoing project is providing a detailed description of GWSS vibrational communication signals in the context of GWSS reproduction by identifying signals that influence mate recognition, finding, choice, and/or acceptance behaviors.

For further information: www.csufresno.edu/biology or phone 278-2001

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@ 278-2001 (at least one week in advance of the event).