

Highlights and Impacts of April 2005 – March 2006 Projects Funded by the Texas Pierce's Disease Research and Education Project

Project Investigator's Name: **Julio Bernal**

Project Title: **Ecology and natural enemies of Glassy winged sharpshooter on Texas wild hosts, and identification of host plant species suitable for use as trap crops in commercial vineyards**

Significant Accomplishment	Impact on Texas Pierce's Disease Management
<p>1. M. Layton and J. Bernal obtained funding for and ordered equipment for studying behavior of sharpshooter and natural enemies. Video Imaging Equipment: \$1800 Cam13 Digital USB Camera: \$395 Video Editing Software: \$250 Total: \$2445</p>	<p>Detailed study of the behavior of sharpshooter and its natural enemies is fundamental for developing sound management strategies. Suitable equipment for such study is not available to J. Bernal, so acquisition of this equipment contributes to the Program's research capacity, and comes at partial cost to the Program.</p>
<p>2. M. Layton met in Fredericksburg with I. Lauziere to become acquainted with Lauziere's research and rearing efforts, and familiarized with sharpshooter rearing.</p>	<p>M. Layton's research will benefit from close collaboration with I. Lauziere. It is anticipated that Lauziere will contribute her expertise in rearing sharpshooters and natural enemies, and insects as needed and available, in support of Layton's research.</p>
<p>3. J. Bernal attended California Pierce's disease research symposium in San Diego. Discussed proposal submission with Dr. Serguei Triapitsyn (UC Riverside) (proposal presently in preparation) to CDFA and UC Pierce's Disease Research Grants program. Discussed research activities with John Goolsby (ARS, Weslaco).</p>	<p>Attendance to the symposium greatly benefited J. Bernal as a newcomer to the Program. Bernal familiarized himself with the latest research efforts, including the responsible researchers. The information presented at the symposium will allow Bernal to better define future research activities, including their relation to other research efforts. It was clear that proposals to the Program would benefit from access prior to submission to the research results presented at the California symposium. Also, very importantly, Bernal discussed collaborative research opportunities with colleagues, and is currently preparing a proposal for submission to the CDFA and UC Pierce's Disease Research Grants program. Any funding obtained as a result of this effort will add, at no cost, to the Program's research productivity.</p>
<p>4. Melissa Layton concluded the first semester of her Ph.D. program and began preparation of her dissertation proposal.</p>	<p>The importance of graduate student training for the Program's goals can not be overemphasized. M. Layton satisfactorily concluded the first semester of her Ph.D. program and began</p>

	preparing here dissertation research proposal. Coursework during the Spring 2006 semester will be less intensive so Layton can devote more time and effort to her research activities.
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<p>Source and Amount of Funds Leveraging Current Pierces Disease Project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Hispanic Leadership Program in Agriculture and Natural Resources, \$2445.2.3.	
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<p>Publications/Presentations Documenting Research/Education Outputs (please provide full citations for publications; and the title, audience, location, and date of each presentation):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. None2.3.	
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