Research Summary Updates for Chilli Thrips, Scirtothrips dorsalis Hood



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Overview of Research Topics

- Spatial Distribution
- Sampling for Population Density
- Pesticide Trials

Spatial Distribution Experiment



Damaged calyx due to S. dorsalis



SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF S. dorsalis IN PEPPER FIELDS

Distribution of larvae and adults on terminal leaves and fruits were aggregated (patchy distribution).

■ The patchy distribution of this thrips may allow for spot treatments of pesticides to be considered.

How Many Samples are Needed to Estimate Chilli Thrips Population Density?

- Biweekly scouting in high-risk risk areas can provide useful information about population density.
- In a 16 x 16 ft area
 - If the mean number of adults and larvae is ca. 0.5 per sample, then collect 6 samples.
 - If the mean number of adults and larvae is ca. 1 per sample, then collect 2 samples.

CONTROL OF S. dorsalis

First Study, St. Vincent, Oct. 18 – 28, 2004

Treatments were applied using a backpack sprayer delivering 100 gpa at 30 psi



Treatments
Spinosad
Imidacloprid
Chlorfenapyr
Novaluron
Avermectin
Azadirachtin
Control

Pesticide Trials

Treatments Rate [oz.]/acre

Spinosad 7.00

Imidacloprid 3.75

Chlorfenapyr* 10.00

Novaluron 10.00

Avermectin 10.00

Azadirachtin 7.00

All Pesticides indicated a reduced number of thrips compared to the control 24 hours post-treatment.

^{*}Note: Only labeled for greenhouse use in Florida.

Pesticide Trials

Treatments

Imidacloprid Most Effective

Chlorfenapyr Most Effective

Spinosad Effective

Avermectin* Effective after 2nd Application

Novaluron* Effective after 2nd Application

Azadirachtin* Effective after 2nd Application

*Note: Results from Second Experiment for Efficacy of Agrimek, Novaluron, and Neemix differed after 24 hours in second experiment.

Pesticide Use

- Minimum of 2 applications with a 7-day interval are needed for effective control.
- Biweekly scouting post-treatment may be needed to avoid population buildup.

Chilli Thrips Larval Mortality Laboratory Bioassay

Insecticides	Rate/100gal (oz)	% mortality
Oxamyl	32.00	93
Indoxacarb	3.47	13
Acephate	12.00	87
Fenpropathrin	10.75	20
Control	0	13

Effective and Ineffective Insecticides for chilli thrips control

EFFECTIVE	INEFFECTIVE
Oxamyl	Spiromesifen
Acephate	Cyfluthrin
Chlorfenapyr	Fenpropathrin
Spinosad	Indoxacarb
Imidacloprid	Neemix
Avermectin	Novaluron (weak)

Future Research

- Additional biological studies.
- Evaluation of biological agents.
- Additional pesticide trials.
- Improved trapping technology for surveillance.

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