

**PINK HIBISCUS MEALYBUG QUARTERLY REPORT**  
**Period 4/1/07 – 6/30/07**

During this reporting period, April-June 2007, the PHM Program has produced 183,457 *Anagyrus kamali*, 262,700 *Gyranusoidea indica*, and 1,175 *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*. Of the *A. kamali* produced 146,757 were shipped, and of the *G. indica* produced 222,400 were shipped. The number of parasitoids produced continues to exceed the established weekly goals of the project. The average number of *A. kamali* shipped per week was 11,273 and the average number of *G. indica* shipped per week was 17,107. The number of parasitoids requested by field personnel has increased from 30,000-40,000 per week to 45,000-60,000 per week. The request for predators has also increased in association with an increase in reports of heavy infestations. Due to this increased demand, measures have been taken to increase production during this period. In addition, work is being conducted on the development of an artificial diet for *C. montrouzieri*. Experiments of the yeast based diet and several other diets are currently in progress. A Standard Operating Procedure Project Manual for PHM production has been compiled. All PHM personnel and management have received a copy and all standards have been implemented.

Two Japanese pumpkin crops located in Citra and Hastings have been harvested for a total of 2067 pumpkins weighing 5197 lbs. Both crops were considered successful in regard to quantity and quality. Plans for next quarter include planting a new Japanese pumpkin crop in Hastings in July and September. In order to extend the production period and assure a continued supply of pumpkins through the winter months, plans for a greenhouse crop at a DPI site in Dundee are being investigated.

A phytophagous Strawberry Mite (*Tetranychus turkestanii*) was detected in several of the PHM rearing colonies this past February. The measures taken to eliminate the mites were successful and no additional mites have been found. In order to prevent further mite problems, all pumpkins entering the rearing process are now fumigated with Methyl Bromide and run through a quality control check. Several other quality control measures were implemented to help prevent further contaminations of the PHM facilities.

There are currently 25 counties receiving parasitoids and predators from the Gainesville rearing facilities. These counties are; Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Highlands, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lee, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Lucie and Volusia.

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