

SÉMINAIRE Résultats de la recherche en agriculture biologique dans l'Est du Canada –

Programme

Partie 4

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Spinosad against flea beetles in low bush blueberry

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Blueberry and flea beetles

- More than 23000 ha of low bush blueberry grown in Eastern Canada
- "Minor crop"
- Flea beetles (altises en français)
 - Larvae eat foliage and buds
- Trichlorfon (Dylox) registered to control flea beetle on blueberry
- No import tolerance for trichlorfon in US









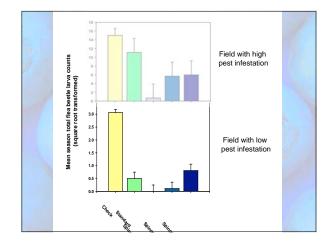


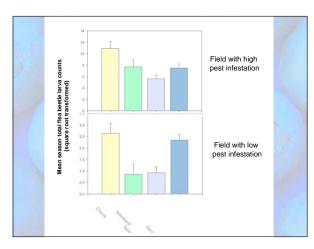


Challenges In areas of high infestation, defoliation is patchy Randomization was important Covariate of rating of defoliation was used Yield data affected by patchiness of two species with different yields: Vaccinium angustifolium and Vaccinium myrtilloides Ratings of % coverage by each species

Weighting of yields

Treatments							
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Results

- Spinosad at both rates reduced flea beetle populations

 - below those of the untreated check
 equivalent to or below populations in plots treated with industry standard, trichlorfon
- Single application is as effective as multiple ones
- Targeting the larval stages is more effective than targeting the adults
- - reduction in untreated plots only
 spinosad and richlorfon treated plots was comparable

Conclusions

- Spinosad is an effective alternative to trichlorfon
- Spinosad is non-toxic to bees as soon as it is dry
- Organic formulations of spinosad may be available
- Success 480SC (not organic) was registered for flea beetle on blueberry in fall 2007as a result of this work

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