

Control of Whitefly Using Beneficial Wasps

Location of Trial:

Bluemount Nursery, Monkton, MD, Kathy Miller, Co-owner and Head Grower

IPM Scout at Bluemount:

Joanne Lutz, Joanne's IPM, Inc., Woodbine, MD

University of Maryland:

Stanton Gill, Regional Specialist

Suzanne Klick, Agricultural Technician

Stephanie Reed, High School Intern

Beneficial Wasps

Enermix from Koppert Biological, Inc.:

(10 strips of 5 cards each = 3000 pupa)

Eretmocerus eremicus

Slower to mate and reproduce

Encarsia formosa

Are all female so start laying eggs immediately



Recommended rates:

Preventative: 1.5 pupa/m² released every 1–2 weeks

Curative: 3 – 9 pupa/m² released once a week

Rate used in trial:

6 pupa/m² released once a week

Treatments:

Beneficials' house – Enermix & 1 application of Distance

Imidacloprid house – Imidacloprid (Marathon) only

NOTE: No Control houses in this trial because of grower's concerns.

In both houses, flagged plants were examined and the number of whitefly found was recorded. Enermix tags were hung once a week from the first week of October to the first week of December (except for week of November 4th)



September 28, 2001



November 21, 2001

Imidacloprid (Marathon) was applied once at the beginning of the growing season.



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Results

Whitefly populations remained low in both houses. A few hot spots developed near vents and doors. Infested leaves were removed when found. No pest problems occurred in either house.