

Thrips (ex Biobest)



Due to their excellent natural adaptation thrips have developed to be one of the most feared and widespread pests. They cause serious damage to vegetable crops as well as ornamentals and soft fruit.

Damage

Thrips damage the crop by withdrawing plant cell fluids. Empty cells are filled with air, causing a silvery appearance, on which dark spots (the excrements) are visible. Moreover, many more damage symptoms may occur depending on the crop. For instance, thrips on very young cucumber fruits give deformed fruits. In sweet pepper, they cause cosmetic damage on the fruits close to the calyx. In several ornamentals, flower damage through discoloration or deformation occurs. Only a few individual thrips are enough to cause severe damage. Moreover, thrips are important vectors of several viruses (e.g. tomato spotted wilt virus, TSWV).

Description and life cycle

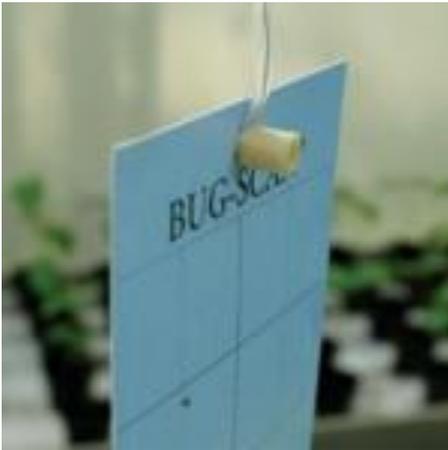
Adult thrips are small, elongated insects with typical fringed wings. They measure about 1 mm, and have a grayish or yellow to brown colour. Female thrips deposits eggs in the leaf cuticle tissue. The eggs hatch within a few days into very mobile larvae which immediately start to feed. After the second instar larva they let themselves fall to the ground to pupate. The total development time from egg to adult takes from 20 days at 20°C (68°F) to 12 days at 30°C (86°F). At sufficiently high temperatures one female thrips can produce up to 200 descendants.

Species

The two most common harmful species are the onion thrips (*Thrips tabaci*) and the western flower thrips (*Frankliniella occidentalis*).

ThriPher (pheromone of *Frankliniella occidentalis*)

Quick and early detection of western flower thrips



ThriPher lures contain a sexual aggregation pheromone to attract both male and female adult western flower thrips (*Frankliniella occidentalis*).

Usually, thrips are already present in a crop before they are detected on sticky traps. The use of ThriPher in combination with the blue Bug-Scan® sticky traps allows the detection of thrips at an early stage.

The pheromone attracts two to three times as many thrips to the sticky trap as compared to using the sticky trap alone, which leads to earlier detection.

ThriPher also acts to lure thrips from their shelters to the leaves, increasing their exposure to natural enemies or chemical crop protection products and enabling a more efficient thrips control.

ThriPher is delivered in a hermetic foil pack containing 10 lures.

Place the ThriPher lure in one of the holes of the blue Bug-Scan® sticky trap or place them in the CO₂ dosing system prior to a pesticide treatment.

Dosage: 1 lure / per sticky trap, 1 lure and trap / 100 m², 4-6 weeks life

Biosweet - a special sugar solution to improve thrips control



Biosweet ensures that thrips are attracted away from the flowers or hiding places to the leaves, so that they become easily reachable for predatory bugs and mites or for any other pest control methods.

Dosage: 200-500ml /100 litres water – tank-mix with abamectin etc