



MAURITIUS SUGAR INDUSTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Recommendation Sheet No 55
(September 1990)

CONTROL OF *Thrips palmi* IN POTATO AND BEAN PLANTATIONS*

Thrips palmi is a polyphagous insect which can cause severe damage to various crops, including potato and bean. In the case of potato, stress conditions like drought, poor seed quality, heavy leaf miner attack, may render the crop very vulnerable to the infestations of *T. palmi*. The insect is mostly found on the underside of leaves, and sprays should therefore be directed there for better control. In this context use of mistblowers is recommended, with an application rate of 400 L/ha.

The only treatment which is presently recommended is:

Dicarzol 500 SP (formetanate) @ 400 g/ha

POINTS TO BE NOTED:

1. If mistblowers are not available, ordinary knapsack sprayers should be fitted with cone-jet nozzles with an application rate of 600 L/ha.
2. Treatments to be made only when an appreciable number of individuals are present (about 10-15/leaflet), indicated by leaves which turn silvery and then brown.
3. Treatments to be repeated after one week if necessary but at latest 2 weeks before harvest.

* This Recommendation Sheet cancels No 45 of August 1987