

Section II

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Onion thrips, a primary pest of onions, continue to be a concern to growers in southwest Idaho. Field trials were conducted to determine insecticide efficacy on onion thrips.

Experimental foliar treatments were applied 10 and 21 July using a CO₂ pressurized sprayer delivering ca. 65 gal water/acre at 35 psi. Thrips were counted 11, 14, 21, 22 and 25 July. No phytotoxicity was noted in any of the treatments.

Pyrethroid insecticides, such as Ammo, Capture, and Pounce, are not registered for use on onions; however, they provided the best control of onion thrips. Spur, a pyrethroid registered for use on seed onions, provided good thrips control. Spur provided longer control applied with a sticker-spreader (X-77) than it did alone. Guthion and Sevin, both registered for use on onions, gave poor thrips control compared with the pyrethroids.

Treatments were applied to small plots using high rates of water (ca. 65 gal water/acre). Most growers apply insecticides by air in 5 to 10 gal water/acre. One would expect similar thrips control at the lower rates of water, but perhaps not on the same magnitude.

Yield did not appear to be correlated with thrips numbers.

Treatment and lb (AI)/acre	Number of Thrips/Plant ^a Count Dates ^b				
	7/11	7/14	7/21	7/22	7/25
Ammo 2.5 EC 0.04	8.5 a	9.3 a	12.6 b	0.5 a	1.5 a
Ammo 2.5 EC 0.06	8.3 a	6.3 a	8.9 ab	0.5 a	0.9 a
Ammo 2.5 EC 0.08	8.3 a	4.8 a	6.9 ab	0.4 a	1.1 a
Capture 2.0 EC 0.08	8.3 a	8.3 a	9.0 ab	0.2 a	1.1 a
Capture 2.0 EC 0.1	9.8 ab	6.3 a	8.7 ab	0.4 a	0.0 a
Spur 22% 8 oz	9.8 ab	6.3 a	11.0 ab	1.0 a	0.9 a
Spur 22% 8 oz + X-77	9.5 ab	6.3 a	4.4 a	0.8 a	2.0 a
Spur 22% 6 oz + X-77	10.0 ab	13.8 a	8.5 ab	1.5 a	1.6 a
Spur 22% 6 oz	10.5 ab	9.0 a	10.6 ab	0.8 a	2.0 a
Pounce 3.2 EC 0.2	11.5 ab	13.0 a	10.4 ab	1.3 a	2.0 a
Pounce 3.2 EC 0.15	11.8 ab	13.0 a	10.5 ab	1.2 a	2.4 a
Pounce 3.2 EC 0.1	12.2 ab	17.8 ab	14.1 b	1.7 a	3.6 ab
Capture 2.0 EC 0.04	12.5 ab	9.0 a	10.7 ab	0.5 a	2.1 a
Guthion 2 F 0.75	20.5 bc	34.5 c	26.4 c	7.7 b	6.2 bc
Sevin XLR Plus 1.5	24.8 c	17.8 ab	26.3 c	10.1 b	7.5 c
Sevin XLR Plus 1.0	25.3 c	28.0 ab	30.5 c	8.9 b	3.9 abc
Check	47.0 d	36.8 c	27.2 c	26.7 c	16.1 d

a Means of four replicates

b Numbers followed by the same letter are not significantly different (P = 0.05) by DMRT for that count date.

Treatment and lb (AI)/acre	4"	Bulb Sizes		Mean Yield ^a (cwt/acre)
		3" - 4"	3"	
Pounce 3.2 EC 0.2	133	541	143	817 a
Ammo 2.5 EC 0.08	54	535	198	787 ab
Spur 22% 8 oz	43	478	209	730 abc
Spur 22% 6 oz + X-77	75	412	198	685 a-d
Spur 22% 8 oz + X-77	129	380	172	681 a-d
Ammo 2.5 EC 0.04	49	427	174	650 a-d
Sevin XLR 1.5	105	361	179	645 a-d
Check	0	441	201	642 a-d
Guthion 2 F 0.75	67	401	163	631 a-d
Ammo 2.5 EC 0.06	30	455	117	602 bcd
Sevin XLR 1.0	0	418	179	597 bcd
Pounce 3.2 EC 0.15	80	362	151	593 bcd
Capture 2.0 EC 0.08	61	368	132	561 cd
Pounce 3.2 EC 0.1	44	335	170	549 cd
Spur 22% 6 oz	42	354	148	544 cd
Capture 2.0 EC 0.04	0	326	179	505 d
Capture 2.0 EC 0.1	0	336	150	486 d

a Numbers followed by the same letter are not significantly different (P = 0.05) by DMRT.