



**COST 850**  
**Biocontrol Symbiosis**

**Workshop:**  
**Biological control of thrips, with special emphasis on the use of  
entomopathogenic nematodes**

**Date:**

**April 23-24, 2005**

**Place:**

**University Hannover, Germany**  
**Institute for Plant Diseases and Plant Protection**  
**Herrenhäuser Straße 2**  
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**Short Report of the meeting**

## **Saturday 23rd of April 2005**

13:00 Arrival at Hannover University (Herrenhäuser Str. 2, 30419 Hannover, Germany)

**Presentations:** 14:00 - 18:00

13:30 Welcome and introduction (Hans-Michael Poehling and Lemma Ebssa, Hannover University, Germany)

### **Application of entomopathogenic nematode in thrips control**

Chair: Christian Borgemeister, Hannover University, Germany

- 14:00 Use of EPNs for control of *Frankliniella occidentalis* and *Thrips tabaci* in chrysanthemum (Ellen Beering, Applied Plant Research Division Glasshouse Horticulture, Praktijkonderzoek Plant en Omgeving, The Netherlands)
- 14:30 Control of thrips with entomopathogenic nematodes: possibilities and challenges (Lemma Ebssa and Christian Borgemeister, Hannover University, Germany)
- 15:00 Infection of western flower thrips, *Frankliniella occidentalis* by entomopathogenic nematodes (Abdulrhman Al-Siyabi, University of Reading, UK)
- 15:30 Experiences with *Steinernema feltiae* against *Frankliniella occidentalis* (Jude Bennison, ADAS Boxworth, UK)
- 16:00 Combined use of insect pathogenic nematodes and fungi against the onion thrips, *Thrips tabaci*, in the field. (Kerstin Jung, BBA Darmstadt, Germany)
- 16:30 Discussion
- 16:45 Coffee break

### **Session continued.**

Chair: Arne Peters, e-nema GmbH, Raisdorf, Germany

- 17:15 Application of *Steinernema feltiae* against WFT - Practical experiences (Michael Barth, E-Nema, Germany)
- 17:35 Is control of WFT with EPNs good enough to reduce the spread of tospoviruses? (Monique Tomiczek, ADAS Boxworth, UK)
- 17:55 Possibilities of seed coating in an IPM system against thrips in leek and onion (Hilfred Huiting, Applied Plant Research, The Netherlands)
- 18:15 Concluding discussion of this session

From 19:00 onwards social evening

## **Sunday 24th of April 2005**

**Presentations:** 8:30 - 10:30

Other thrips control options

Chair: Jude Bennison, ADAS Boxworth, UK

- 8:30 General Considerations for the application of EPN on the foliage (Arne Peters, e-nema GmbH, Ralf-Udo Ehlers and Sibylle Schroer, Univ. Kiel, Germany)
- 9:00 Interactions of Neem and EPNs (Jürgen Meyer, Lemma Ebssa, Gunda Thoeming, Christian Borgemeister, and Hans-Michael Poehling, Hannover University, Germany)
- 9:30 Systemic effects of neem on Western Flower Thrips (Gunda Thoeming, Christian Borgemeister and Hans-Michael Poehling, Hannover University, Germany)
- 10:00 Use of UV-absorbing plastic sheets for control of *Frankliniella occidentalis* (Rose Kigathi, Christian Borgemeister and Hans-Michael Poehling, Hannover University, Germany)
- 10:30 Coffee break

### **Poster**

- 11:00 Efficacy of entomopathogenic fungi to western flower thrips *Frankliniella occidentalis* (Helga Sermann, Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany)

**Presentation:** 11:15 – 12:45

Other thrips control options (continued)

Chair: Ellen Beering, Praktijkonderzoek Plant en Omgeving, The Netherlands

- 11:15 Evaluation of plant compounds for use in thrips control strategies (Elisabeth Helene Koschier, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria)
- 11:45 General discussion and recommendations for the biological control of thrips
- 12:45 Closure of the meeting

Departure: 13:00

This meeting took place according to the above program. There were 24 and 23 participants from different EU countries on the first and second day of the meeting, respectively. The meeting benefited from discussions after each presentation, at the end of each session, and at the end of the meeting in a general discussion. In all sessions interesting points related to the presented talks and general discussion related to the biological control of thrips were raised and discussed thoroughly. The participants shared their experiences of working on thrips control. Abstracts/presentations of all talks will be published on the COST850 Internet homepage (<http://www.cost850.ch>).

One important consensus at the end of the discussion was that results of thrips control using entomopathogenic nematodes, as reported by different researchers, are rather variable. Many laboratories are working on different nematode species and experimental methodologies. The participants agreed on the need of exchanging idea, entomopathogenic nematode species/strains, and experimental set ups. Finally, it was proposed that there is a need for having a laboratory-based discussion focussing on thrips-bioassay experience exchange and defining methodologies in thrips experiments. Jude Bennison (ADAS Boxworth, UK), Keristin Jung (BBA, Germany), and Harald Mikkelsen (Koppert, The Netherlands) took initiative to organize such a thrips-bioassay meeting in the summer 2005.

The meeting was concluded on May 24, 2005 at 13:00 h.