# Insecticidal Control of Late Winter/Spring Alfalfa Pests in the Palo Verde Valley, 2001

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## Abstract

Fifteen insecticide treatments were applied March 12, 2001, to compare their efficacies on alfalfa weevils, western flower thrips, blue alfalfa aphids and associated aphid predators. Furadan and insecticides containing a pyrethroid active ingredient reduced alfalfa weevil larvae by more than 89% when compared with the untreated check. All treatments provided a minimum of 70% control of blue alfalfa aphids by seven days post treatment, with fewest aphids noted in WarriorT insecticide treatments. Although some insecticides reduced adult western flower thrips number initially, adult thrips increased in all plots between four and seven days post treatment. Both treatments that contained *Lorsban had significantly more adult thrips than the untreated check, indicating* that low amounts of this insecticide may attract adult western flower thrips. At both four and seven days post treatment, nymphal thrips control was best in Success, followed by Furadan, dimethoate and treatments containing Lorsban. Higher numbers of thrips nymphs were noted in all pyrethroid treatments not in combination with other treatments than in the untreated check at four and seven days post treatment, perhaps indicating hormolygosis for western flower thrips and these insecticides. Few aphid predators were present until late in the study.

# Introduction

Insects are an annual concern to late winter/spring alfalfa production in the Palo Verde Valley of eastern California. Insecticidal control is the common method utilized for economics of production, but insecticides differ in their effects upon various insects. Spring alfalfa is often beseiged simultaneously or nearly so by multiple pests in the spring. These pests include alfalfa weevils, aphids (usually two species), and occasionally spider mites.

Western flower thrips (*Frankliniella occidentallis* Pergrande) often build to tremendous numbers in early spring alfalfa as well, although they have not been associated with economic damage to alfalfa foliage under local conditions. Thrips were noted in a fall 2000 survey of western states as one of the top three insect pests of alfalfa in both Nevada and Washington (Putnam et al., 2000). Thrips can be a local problem in crops adjoining alfalfa, as cutting alfalfa forage infested with thrips causes migration and feeding damage by adult thrips and subsequent generation(s). Little, if any, data are available from the desert southwest for thrips control in alfalfa.

This trial was conducted to generate additional efficacy data for some established alfalfa insecticides as well as initial local data about potential new insecticides for spring alfalfa insect control.

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## **Methods and Materials**

Treatments were applied the morning of March 12, 2001 with a back pack  $CO_2$  sprayer calibrated to apply 22.1 gpa at 20 psi with four T-Jet 8002VS nozzle tips. Plots were 6' wide x 25' long. Treatments were replicated four times, and all insecticide treatments had the surfactant R-11 (Wilbur-Ellis Co.) added at a rate of 1 oz./gal. of spray (0.78125%). Alfalfa was a new stand planted in early Nov. 200 (consisting of several varieties mixed together) that had not been previously harvested and was 20 inches tall at time of application.

Plots were sampled one, four, seven, 14 and 21 days post treatment with a 15 inch diameter sweep net. Ten three foot sweeps were made in each plot. Net contents were then transferred to plastic containers and frozen for subsequent insect separation and counting. Numbers of alfalfa weevils and blue alfalfa aphids were recorded for all five sample dates, but thrips numbers were recorded for just the first three (1,4 and 7 days post treatment) samplings. Other insects and predators (spiders) were also counted when present and analyses conducted when sufficient numbers permitted, with most beneficial insects not present until 14 days post treatment. All data were analyzed utilizing Statgraphics Plus for Windows (Manugistics, Inc.), and separations of treatment means for the various insects was accomplished using a Fishers least significant difference.

## Results

#### Alfalfa Weevils

Alfalfa weevil larvae peaked during the experiment with highest numbers recorded in the four day post treatment sample (Table 1). Larval weevil numbers were high for the first week following treatment, providing excellent confidence in experimental findings, but declined rapidly thereafter. All treatments significantly reduced alfalfa weevil larval by one day post treatment, but reductions noted ranged from approximately 50% control (Calypso, Success @ 4 oz + Dimethoate) to approximately 90% control (all pyrethroid treatments and Furadan). Success used as 6 oz/acre (+ Dimethoate) provided about 75% control, slightly better than did Dimethoate by itself (68% control), which was very similar to Lorsban 4E at one pt/acre at this sample date.

By four days post treatment weevil control increased (on a percentage basis) for almost all insecticides with the exception of Calypso and Dimethoate, which both still had control levels equivalent to that of one day post treatment. Treatments containing a pyrethroid insecticide and the Furadan 4F treatment provided >89% control. Control of alfalfa weevil larvae from the Success treatments ranged from 83-88% at this sample date, with Lorsban 4E at the 1 pt/acre rate provided 82% control.

At seven days post treatment, percentage control was very similar to that of four days post treatment, although a slight decrease was noted for the Success treatments and the Lorsban treatment. Control noted in the Calypso treatment was less than 40%, but greater than 96% control was noted from a number of pyrethriod treatments as well as the rate of Furadan 4F utilized. Dimethoate continued to provide about 66% control of weevil larvae.

Weevil control at 14 days post treatment lessened compared with that of seven days post treatment for most treatments, as weevils increased slighly in numbers in most plots while declining in the untreated check (Figure 1). Data from 21 days post treatment found weevils numbers to be very similar in all treatments.

## Blue Alfalfa Aphids

Aphids in this experiment were almost entirely blue alfalfa aphids (*Acyrthosiphon kondoi* Shinji) with an occasional pea aphid (less than 0.5%). Aphids increased during the experiment, peaking in the untreated check at 7 days post treatment (Table 2), with substantial population reduction thereafter.

At one day post treatment both rates of F0570 had the fewest aphids. Treatments containing Dimethoate also provided an average of 82% aphid reduction, followed by Furadan and the high rate (2.4 oz/acre) of Baythroid. A significantly higher population was noted in the Calypso plus Baythoid 2 treatment than was noted in either Calypso or Baythoid at same rate by themselves, perhaps indicating some antagonism. All treatments, with the exception of the Baythroid + Calypso treatment, provided 50% control at one day post treatment.

At four days post treatment aphid numbers increased in some treatments, decreased in others, and remained almost the same in a few other treatments. Aphid numbers decreased in both WarriorT treatments, the Baythroid + Lorsban, the high rate of Baythroid, and the Baythroid + Calypso treatments. Large increases (doubling or greater) of aphid numbers

were noted in both F0570 treatments. A large increase in aphid numbers was also noted in the Calypso treatment, and this increase was actually larger in number than those in the F0570 treatments. The 2.4 oz/acre rate of Baythroid 2 and the 6 oz/acre rate of Success + dimethoate were the only two treatments that averaged less than 100 aphids in the 10 sweep samples at four days post treatment.

Aphid numbers decreased in all insecticide treatments between four and seven days post treatment, although numbers of aphids remained almost identical in the untreated check. Fewest aphids were noted in both WarriorT treatments (>93.8% control), followed by the 4 oz/acre rate of F0570 and the Baythroid + Lorsban treatment (both 92.8% control); highest aphid populations in treatments were noted in the Furadan (84.5% control) and Calypso (74.5% control) treatments at seven days post treatment.

At fourteen days post treatment aphid numbers had decreased in the untreated check by about 45%, while increasing in all insecticide treatments. Both WarriorT treatments and both treatments containing Lorsban kept aphid numbers from exceeding 100/ten sweeps on this sample date. Average control in these four insecticide treatments was 77%. Aphid numbers in all insecticide treatments exceeded that of the untreated check at 21 days post treatment.

### Western Flower Thrips Adults

All chemistries applied reduced adult western flower thrips at one day post treatment (Table 3), although a wide range of reductions was noted. Fewest adult thrips were noted in the high (4 oz/acre) rate of F0570 which reduced thrips by 77%, followed by Furadan and dimethoate (both 73.5% reduction). Least reduction was noted in the high rates of Baythroid tested (28-34% control) at one day post treatment.

At four days post treatment differences in adult thrips numbers compared with the untreated check were not as readily noticable. Rate responses for WarriorT, Baythroid and Success (the higher the rate, the fewer adult thrips) were noted. Highest numbers of adult thrips were present in plots that had been treated with Lorsban (alone or in combination) and the low rate (3.0 oz/acre) of WarriorT.

Adult thrips increased in all plots between four and seven days post treatment (Table 3). Both treatments that contained Lorsban had significantly more adult thrips than the untreated check, indicating that this treatment may attract adult western flower thrips. Means of adult western flower thrips in other treatements were not statistically different than the untreated check, although a range of adult flower thrips existed in the other treatements. The next highest numbers of western flower thrips adults (after treatments containing Lorsban) were noted in the low rates for WarriorT and Baythroid. Only dimethoate and the 6 oz/acre rate of Success+ dimethoate had fewer adult thrips than the untreated check on this sample date. Thrips numbers were not obtained for 14 and 21 days post treatment.

#### Western Flower Thrips Nymphs

Western flower thrips nymphs were abundant through the seven days post treatment that samples were collected. At one day post treatment, numbers of nymphs were reduced at least 70% in only 5 treatments: both rates of Success + dimethoate, dimethoate alone, Lorsban (16 oz/acre rate) and Furadan. Rate responses were noted in nymph reduction at one day post treatment for F0570. Baythoid + Lorsban had fewer thrips nymphs than did the any other Baythroid treatment. Treatments containing Calypso had fewer thrips than the Baythoid alone at various rates.

Numbers of nymphs increased in most treatments between one and four days post application, although the untreated check declined slightly. This slight reduction is thought due to interaction with weevils and aphids and lack of control in these plots. Further nymph reduction was noted between four and seven days post treatment.

The only treatments in which nymphs numbers were reduced from one to four days post treatment were both rates of Success, and Furadan. These three treatments provided a range of 78.6% control (Furadan) to 89.4% control (6 oz./acre rate of Success + dimethoate).

At both four and seven days post treatment, nymphal thrips control was best in Success, followed by Furadan, then dimethoate and treatments containing Lorsban, which significantly reduced thrips compared with most other treatments. Rate responses were noted for Success, Baythroid, WarriorT, and F0570, with the higher rates of each of these chemistries having fewer thrips nymphs that the lower rates tested. Higher numbers of thrips nymphs were noted in all pyrethroid treatments (not in combination with other treatments) than in the untreated check at four and seven days post treatment, perhaps indicating hormolygosis for western flower thrips and these insecticides. Calypso provided better thrips control than the pyrethroids tested, but not as good as non-pyrethoids in this trial on these sample dates.

## **Beneficial Insects**

Beneficial insects consisted primarily of lady beetles (both the convergent ladybeetle *Hippodamia convergens* and the sevenspotted lady beetle *Coccinella septempuctata*) and syrphid flies. Populations of these species were not present in any numbers until 14 days post treatment. Ladybeetle larvae were more numerous than lady beetle adults at both 14 and 21 days post treatment (Table 5) and were more prevalent than were syrphid flies (Table 6). Little difference existed in numbers of adult beetles, but differences were noted in larval numbers, especially at 21 days post treatment. Fewest beetle larvae were noted in the WarriorT treatments, but these treatments also had fewer blue alfalfa aphids at 7 and 14 days post treatment. Treatments with higher numbers of ladybeetle larvae than the check at 21 days post treatment were the low (4 oz./acre) rate of Success + dimethoate, dimethoate, and Calypso. The reason for these increases is unclear, but may be indicative of the 'soft' aspect of certain of these chemistries.

Syrphid fly numbers were very low, but highest numbers of larvae were noted at 21 days post treatment in the untreated check. Larval numbers were almost non-existant in any treatment at 14 days post application. Adults were more numerous than larvae at both 14 and 21 days post treatment.

Some spiders and rove beetles were present at the beginning of this study. Means of these arthropods were not significantly different than the untreated check at one day post treatment however.

# **Literature Cited**

Putnam., D., J. Brummer, D. Cash, A. Gray, T. Griggs, M. Ottman, I. Ray, W. Riggs, M. Smith, G. Shewmaker, and R. Todd. 2000. The importance of western alfalfa production. Pp. 1-9. <u>In</u> Proc. 29th National Alfalfa Symposium. 251 pp.

	Rate/acre			Days post treatm	nent	
<u>Treatment</u> Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	<u>(lbs ai/acre)</u> 4 oz (0.0625) 16 oz (0.5)	<u>1</u> 18.75 d	<u>4</u> 9.75ab	$\frac{7}{13.5 \text{ bc}}$	<u>14</u> 5.25ab	<u>21</u> 4.25 b
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	6 oz (0.09375) 16 oz (0.5)	9.00abc	7.00a	8.0abc	3.50ab	4.25 b
Dimethoate 400	16 oz (0.5)	12.50 bcd	19.5 bc	17.0 c	11.00 cd	3.0 ab
Lorsban 4E	16 oz (0.5)	12.75 bcd	10.5ab	11.25abc	7.50 bc	1.75ab
Baythroid 2 + Lorsban 4E	2 oz (0.03125) 8 oz (0.25)	3.75ab	6.25a	0.50a	2.00a	1.00a
Baythroid 2	1.6 oz (0.025)	5.75ab	0.75a	1.75a	3.25ab	2.00ab
Baythroid 2	2.4 oz (0.0375)	3.25ab	1.00a	0.50a	4.25ab	2.00ab
Baythroid20 WP	2.5 oz (0.03125)	2.75a	2.25a	2.75ab	2.75a	0.75a
Baythroid 2 + Calypso 4SC	1.6 oz (0.025) 1.5 oz (0.047)	5.75ab	4.25a	4.25ab	4.50ab	2.00ab
Calypso4SC	1.5 oz (0.047)	17.50 cd	29.25 c	30.25 d	11.50 cd	2.75ab
WarriorT 1E	3 oz (0.025)	5.25ab	2.75a	0.50a	3.75ab	2.50ab
WarriorT 1E	3.84 oz (0.03)	5.50ab	1.25a	0.75a	2.50a	2.00ab
F0570 0.8E	4 oz (0.025)	3.50ab	2.75a	2.00a	4.75ab	2.00ab
F0570 0.8 E	2.7 oz (0.0167)	3.75ab	3.00a	2.75ab	2.50a	1.00a
Furadan 4F	16 oz (0.5)	4.00ab	4.00a	0.50a	3.25ab	2.75ab
Untreated Check		39.00 e	57.75 d	50.0 e	13.0 d	1.75ab

Table 1. Mean number of alfalfa weevil larvae per 10 three foot sweeps at one, four, seven, 14and 21 days after treatment on March 12, 2001, Blythe, CA.

	Rate/acre		D	ays post treatment		
Treatment	(lbs ai/acre)		4	7	14	21
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	4 oz (0.0625) 16 oz (0.5)	64.5a	118.75ab	66.5 a	172.0 a	188.5abc
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	6 oz (0.09375) 16 oz (0.5)	94.0a	92.25a	60.75a	105.75a	250.0 bc
Dimethoate 400	16 oz (0.5)	73.25a	120.75ab	78.0 ab	110.5 a	114.5a
Lorsban 4E	16 oz (0.5)	162.75ab	200.25ab	82.0 ab	98.25a	85.5a
Baythroid 2 + Lorsban 4E	2 oz (0.03125) 8 oz (0.25)	147.00ab	129.75ab	47.5 a	74.25a	102.25a
Baythroid 2	1.6 oz (0.025)	113.50a	128.75ab	86.75ab	158.25a	184.0 abc
Baythroid 2	2.4 oz (0.0375)	88.25a	79.50a	57.5 a	120.5 a	158.0 abc
Baythroid20 WP	2.5 oz (0.03125)	154.75ab	121.75ab	66.0 a	146.25a	262.25 c
Baythroid 2 + Calypso 4SC	1.6 oz (0.025) 1.5 oz (0.047)	301.75 bc	183.00ab	96.5 ab	141.75a	138.0 abc
Calypso 4SC	1.5 oz (0.047)	162.25ab	283.25 b	167.75 b	300.0 b	72.25a
WarriorT 1E	3 oz (0.025)	139.5ab	121.00ab	40.5 a	69.75a	98.75a
WarriorT 1E	3.84 oz (0.03)	182.5ab	130.00ab	31.0 a	87.5 a	65.0a
F0570 0.8E	4 oz (0.025)	53.50a	109.75a	47.5 a	150.0 a	134.0ab
F0570 0.8E	2.7 oz (0.0167)	56.25a	140.50ab	59.0 a	144.0 a	137.0ab
Furadan 4F	16 oz (0.5)	87.50a	135.50ab	102.0 ab	102.25a	113.5a
Untreated Check		432.00 c	655.25 c	660.0 c	361.5 b	65.0a

Table 2. Mean number of blue alfalfa aphids per 10 three foot sweeps at one, four, seven, 14 and21 days after treatment on March 12, 2001, Blythe, CA.

Rate/acre		Days post treatment				
Treatment	(lbs ai/acre)	1	4	7		
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	4 oz (0.0625) 16 oz (0.5)	11.75abc	17.50ab	35.25ab		
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	6 oz (0.09375) 16 oz (0.5)	16.00abcd	14.75ab	29.50a		
Dimethoate 400	16 oz (0.5)	7.25ab	15.75ab	26.50a		
Lorsban 4E	16 oz (0.5)	11.75abc	33.75 c	62.25 bc		
Baythroid 2 + Lorsban 4E	2 oz (0.03125) 8 oz (0.25)	9.25abc	25.75 bc	79.50 c		
Baythroid 2	1.6 oz (0.025)	12.09abc	17.25ab	51.25ab		
Baythroid 2	2.4 oz (0.0375)	18.00 bcd	22.00abc	45.25ab		
Baythroid20 WP	2.5 oz (0.03125)	19.75 cd	18.52ab	34.50ab		
Baythroid 2 + Calypso 4SC	1.6 oz (0.025) 1.5 oz (0.047)	8.50ab	11.50a	44.75ab		
Calypso 4SC	1.5 oz (0.047)	13.75abc	14.50ab	31.25a		
WarriorT 1E	3 oz (0.025)	12.50abc	32.25 c	48.25ab		
WarriorT 1E	3.84 oz (0.03)	15.00abc	12.75a	34.50a		
F0570 0.8E	4 oz (0.025)	6.25a	18.00ab	36.00ab		
F0570 0.8E	2.7 oz (0.0167)	13.25abc	17.00ab	41.25ab		
Furadan 4F	16 oz (0.5)	7.25ab	17.25ab	42.25ab		
Untreated Check		27.42 d	18.75ab	31.75a		

Table 3. Mean number of western flower thrips adults per 10 three foot sweeps at one, four, and seven days after treatment on March 12, 2001, Blythe, CA.

	Rate/acre	D	avs nost treatment	
<u>Treatment</u>	<u>(lbs ai/acre)</u>		<u>4</u>	7
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	4 oz (0.0625) 16 oz (0.5)	64.50a	54.25a	27.00a
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	6 oz (0.09375) 16 oz (0.5)	108.50abc	42.25a	17.50a
Dimethoate 400	16 oz (0.5)	77.00a	131.75abc	120.25abc
Lorsban 4E	16 oz (0.5)	89.50ab	174.75abc	142.75a-d
Baythroid 2 + Lorsban 4E	2 oz (0.03125) 8 oz (0.25)	180.75abc	187.75abc	184.75 bcd
Baythroid 2	1.6 oz (0.025)	258.66 bcd	442.25 de	431.0 g
Baythroid 2	2.4 oz (0.0375)	253.75 bcd	320.50 cde	319.25 efg
Baythroid20 WP	2.5 oz (0.03125)	263.25 cd	492.50 e	315.0 efg
Baythroid 2 + Calypso 4SC	1.6 oz (0.025) 1.5 oz (0.047)	214.75abc	257.75 bcd	224.75 c-f
Calypso 4SC	1.5 oz (0.047)	168.50abc	294.75 cd	224.25 c-f
WarriorT 1E	3 oz (0.025)	142.25abc	452.25 de	323.0 fg
WarriorT 1E	3.84 oz (0.03)	268.5 cd	306.00 cde	220.0 c-f
F0570 0.8E	4 oz (0.025)	197.25abc	324.00 cde	235.75 c-f
F0570 0.8E	2.7 oz (0.0167)	221.75abc	405.75 de	257.25 def
Furadan 4F	16 oz (0.5)	105.00abc	85.00ab	81.0ab
Untreated Check		430.33 d	397.75 de	192.5 b-e

Table 4. Mean number of western flower thrips nymphs per 10 three foot sweeps at one, four, and seven days after treatment on March 12, 2001, Blythe, CA.

	_	Adults		Larvae	
	Rate/acre		Days post tre	eatment	
Treatment	(lbs ai/acre)	14	21	14	21
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	4 oz (0.0625) 16 oz (0.5)	0.00a	0.00a	1.75ab	8.75 e
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	6 oz (0.09375) 16 oz (0.5)	0.50 b	0.00a	1.75ab	5.25 bcde
Dimethoate 400	16 oz (0.5)	0.00a	0.00a	1.50ab	6.50 de
Lorsban 4E	16 oz (0.5)	0.00a	0.00a	1.25ab	3.50abcd
Baythroid 2 + Lorsban 4E	2 oz (0.03125) 8 oz (0.25)	0.00a	0.25ab	0.50a	1.75abc
Baythroid 2	1.6 oz (0.025)	0.25ab	0.25ab	1.75ab	3.75abcd
Baythroid 2	2.4 oz (0.0375)	0.00a	1.00 c	1.75ab	4.25abcd
Baythroid20 WP	2.5 oz (0.03125)	0.25ab	0.75 bc	1.75ab	4.25abcd
Baythroid 2 + Calypso 4SC	1.6 oz (0.025) 1.5 oz (0.047)	0.25ab	0.50abc	2.25ab	4.00abce
Calypso 4SC	1.5 oz (0.047)	0.00a	0.00a	3.50 bc	6.50 de
WarriorT 1E	3 oz (0.025)	0.00a	0.25a	1.25ab	1.25ab
WarriorT 1E	3.84 oz (0.03)	0.00a	0.00a	1.50ab	0.75a
F0570 0.8E	4 oz (0.025)	0.00a	0.00a	1.25ab	1.75abc
F0570 0.8E	2.7 oz (0.0167)	0.00a	0.25ab	0.50a	1.50ab
Furadan 4F	16 oz (0.5)	0.00a	0.00a	1.75ab	3.50abcd
Untreated Check		0.00a	0.25ab	5.50 c	6.00 cde

Table 5. Mean number of adult and larval ladybird beetles per 10 three foot sweeps at 14 and 21 days after treatment on March 12, 2001, Blythe, CA.

	_	Adults			Larvae	
	Rate/acre	Days post treatment				
Treatment	<u>(lbs ai/acre)</u>	14	<u>21</u>	14	21	
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	4 oz (0.0625) 16 oz (0.5)	0.50ab	1.00ab	0.00a	0.00a	
Success 2 + Dimethoate 400	6 oz (0.09375) 16 oz (0.5)	0.50ab	1.50ab	0.00a	0.75ab	
Dimethoate 400	16 oz (0.5)	0.75ab	1.50ab	0.00a	1.00ab	
Lorsban 4E	16 oz (0.5)	0.25ab	1.50ab	0.00a	1.25ab	
Baythroid 2 + Lorsban 4E	2 oz (0.03125) 8 oz (0.25)	0.75ab	1.75ab	0.00a	1.00ab	
Baythroid 2	1.6 oz (0.025)	0.25ab	1.25ab	0.00a	1.25ab	
Baythroid 2	2.4 oz (0.0375)	1.25 b	0.50a	0.00a	1.75 bc	
Baythroid20 WP	2.5 oz (0.03125)	0.25ab	1.25ab	0.00a	1.50abc	
Baythroid 2 + Calypso 4SC	1.6 oz (0.025) 1.5 oz (0.047)	1.00ab	1.25ab	0.00a	1.50abc	
Calypso 4SC	1.5 oz (0.047)	0.50ab	1.5ab	0.00a	2.00 bc	
WarriorT 1E	3 oz (0.025)	0.75ab	1.75ab	0.00a	1.00ab	
WarriorT 1E	3.84 oz (0.03)	1.25 b	0.75ab	0.00a	1.00ab	
F0570 0.8E	4 oz (0.025)	0.00a	0.75ab	0.00a	1.25ab	
F0570 0.8E	2.7 oz (0.0167)	0.75ab	2.25 b	0.00a	0.75ab	
Furadan 4F	16 oz (0.5)	0.25ab	1.75ab	0.00a	0.75ab	
Untreated Check		0.75ab	0.25a	0.50 b	3.00 c	

Table 6. Mean number of adult and larval syrphid flies per 10 three foot sweeps at 14 and 21 days after treatment on March 12, 2001, Blythe, CA.