Preparing the foundation for successful thrips control

Propagation

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Propagation
Where do thrips come from?

- Frequently arrive on imported cuttings
- Low numbers
- Hard to detect life stages
- Rapid life cycle
- Resistant
- Residues
What happens if not controlled?

- Populations grow rapidly
- Biologicals cannot catch up
- Disruption of bio programs

Development of thrips in 60 days (at 68°F)

± 90 thrips

± 5800 thrips

Graphic courtesy of Ronald Valentin
Options and actions

Scout incoming material

Assume propagative material will be infested

Mitigate early

Preventative options
  - Dipping
  - ‘Front-loading’ a bio program

Follow up
  - Monitor (traps with lures?)
  - Esp. on susceptible cultivars
Clean start – poinsettia cuttings
BotaniGard WP/soap dip + *Eretmocerus eremicus*

![Graph showing mean number of Bemesia per plant over weeks after dip.](image)

- **Dipped, no bios**
- **Dipped, w/bios**
- **Not dipped, w/bios**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weeks after dip</th>
<th>Dipped, no bios</th>
<th>Dipped, w/bios</th>
<th>Not dipped, w/bios</th>
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Clean start: in-house propagation

Break the cycle

Focus on controls during propagation
  – Better coverage on young plants
  – Lower numbers

Sanitation
Preparation and propagation

Clean start

- Awareness, actions, prevention
- Early detection
- Know which are thrips-susceptible varieties (vyron, verbena, some calibrachoa, lobularia, petunia v. watermelon charm)
- Early action
- Follow up, monitor