

**RESCATE 200 (ACETAMIPRID)
A NEW ALTERNATIVE FOR SILVERLEAF
WHITEFLY CONTROL
IN THE MEXICALI VALLEY, MEXICO. 1996
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In the Mexicali Valley, the silverleaf whitefly *Bemisia argentifolii* is the most important cotton pest. In 1991 and 1992 this pest caused economic damage to cotton, fall melon and sesame estimated at 30 million dollars.

After this problem, an IPM strategy was implemented to control the whitefly in cotton, the most important summer crop in the valley. The result has been appropriate. Cotton growers apply only 3-4 insecticide applications per season to control the cotton pest complex, including the whitefly. Danitol + Orthene and Triozophos + Orthene have been the most effective insecticide combinations.

Rhone-Poulenc Agro has a new product, RESCATE, to control the silverleaf whitefly. In 1996 RESCATE was evaluated against the whitefly on spring melon. It was found that RESCATE offered better control than Provado, Endosulfan, Capture and Asana, comparing its effect on adults and immature stages, mainly on large nymphs. The percentage of large nymphs on experimental plots treated with RESCATE varied from 1.9 to 2.2%, compared to Provado (22.3%) or with Endosulfan (25.6%).

Based on this information it was planned to compare RESCATE with the most used insecticide combinations to control the silverleaf whitefly. Two experimental plots were selected to do the RESCATE evaluation. A randomized complete block design was used, with 9 treatments and 4 or 5 replications. Treatments were RESCATE (50 and 100 gr ai/ha), Provado (100 gr ai/ha), Endosulfan (1050 gr ai/ha), Danitol + Triazophos (130 gr ai + 600 gr ai/ha), Karate + Triazophos (30 gr ai + 600 gr ai/ha), Capture + Triazophos (35 gr ai + 600 gr ai/ha) and a check (no insecticide used). Three insecticide applications were made during the season in both experimental plots.

To compare the efficiency of the insecticide treatments three kinds of sampling were made: a) adults/leaf, b) immature stages/leaf, and c) sotty mold quantity on leaves and open bolls.

The statistical analysis of the three kinds of data showed that RESCATE, alone, offered a better control of the whitefly, including the three insecticide combinations.