

Management of *Jebusaea hamerschmidtii* and *Batrachedra amydraula* on Date Palm Trees in UAE

Authors : Mohammad Ali Al-Deeb, Hamda Ateeq Al Dhaheri

Abstract : Insects cause major damage to crops and fruit trees worldwide. In the United Arab Emirates, the date palm tree is the most economically important tree which is used for date production as well as an ornamental tree. In 2002, the number of date palm trees in UAE was 40,700,000 and it is increasing over time. The longhorn stem borer (*Jebusaea hamerschmidtii*) and the lesser date moth (*Batrachedra amydraula*) are important insect pests causing damage to date palm trees in UAE. Population dynamics of the *Jebusaea hamerschmidtii* and *Batrachedra amydraula* were studied by using light and pheromone traps, respectively in Al-Ain, UAE. The first trap catch of *B. amydraula* adults occurred on 19 April and the insect population peaked up on 26 April 2014. The first trap catch of *J. hamerschmidtii* occurred in April 2014. The numbers increased over time and the population peak occurred in June. The trapping was also done in 2015. The changes in insect numbers in relation to weather parameters are discussed. Also, the importance of the results on the management of these two pests is highlighted.

Keywords : date palm, integrated pest management, UAE, light trap, pheromone trap

Conference Title : ICE 2015 : International Conference on Entomology

Conference Location : Penang, Malaysia

Conference Dates : December 03-04, 2015