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To | Date

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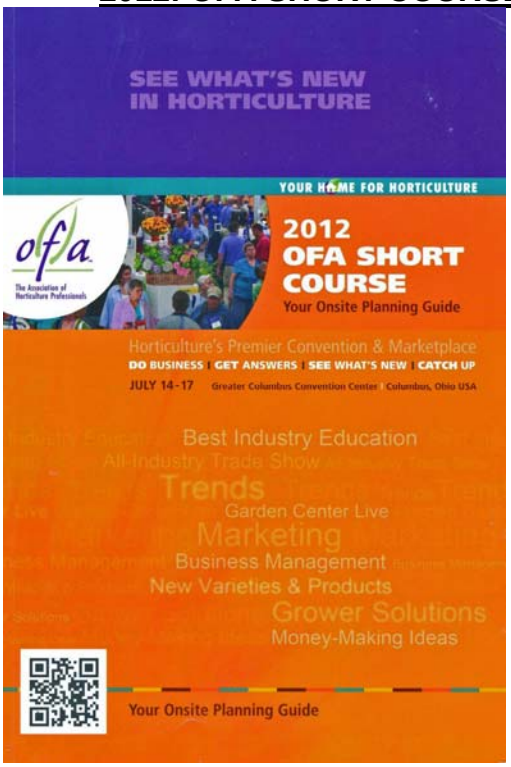
3 pages from Sonja Peters

2012: OFA SHORT COURSE



This conference was held in Columbus Ohio, July 14 to 17, 2012.

Organized by the OFA http://ofashortcourse.org/
The OFA Short Course is the 150th largest conference in US among all industries.

About 9200 people attended, 500 from Canada (69 BC, 22 AB, 15 MB, 9 SK, 309 ON, 96 QC, 23 Maritimes).

Attendance by sector:
218 Distributer / Manufacturer, 16 Garden Center, 5 Government, 163 Greenhouse, 5 Nursery, 138 Other and 5 Florists.

Overview
There are 7 acre tradeshow and educational talks. There are more workshops on biocontrol every year. The information is becoming more specific: which predator to use, when, how and application methods.

A Garden's Positive Impact on Our Communities & Our Lives

Sam Kass, White House Assistant Chef and Senior Policy Advisor for the Healthy Food Initiatives

"Healthy Kids, Healthy Country". "If people plant and harvest from their own gardens, they take ownership and are more likely to eat what they grow."
The White House has a 1500 ft² onsite vegetable garden. 1/3 of the produce goes to soup kitchens and the balance goes to feed the First Family and is used for meals during functions.
- The first lady started the vegetable garden for her children, who had health concerns
- The garden has led the first lady to start "Let's Move!" (www.letsmove.gov/), a comprehensive initiative dedicated to solving the problem of obesity within the younger generation

Thrips Management

Chris Daye, Biobest USA / Dr. Luis Canas, Ohio State University /
Graham Tucker, Green Circle Growers Inc. / Dean Palm, Green Circle Growers Inc.

"Thrips have become the #1 pest problem."

Thrips feed differently than most insects. Thrips eat the cells not the phloem or xylem like aphids do. Therefore, systemic or translaminar products are not effective.

Thrips pupa will survive in the greenhouse floor if it is not cement.

1) Biopesticides

- Nofly: in Canada in greenhouses for whitefly / in US for thrips, aphids, whitefly, caterpillars
- BotaniGard: multiple applications 5 – 7 days apart, use with Success

2) *Biocontrol*

- Cucumeris: predator mite, needs humidity above 65%; therefore not useful in the summer
- Swirski: predator mite, needs temperatures above 20ºC; also likes whiteflies
- when using predator mites:
  - use breeder piles or sachets early in the season (piles allow the mites to reproduce)
  - switch to buckets and broadcasting later in the season
  - plants need to be touching for mites to walk around

Mite Control

Lance Osborne, University of Florida

"Problems with two-spotted mites are increasing."

- coverage (all of the plant) and volume (spray to runoff) are key
- tank mixing may not be the best to do, as they may not work well together
- not necessary to use an adulticide + ovicide, as the eggs hatch and adults eat the adulticide

1) New Pesticides for Control of Spider Mites

a) Kontos (*spirotetramat*) or Movento for outdoor production

- US label: for aphids, spittlebugs, whitefly, spidermites, thrips, scape, phyllids
- Canadian label: fruit and vegetables in Greenhouses on aphids, whitefly, scale, phylloxera

b) Shuttle (a*qeguinocyl)*

- Canadian label: ornamentals in Nursery / Greenhouse on Two-spotted / Spruce spider mites

***2) Bicontrol of Spider Mites* (note: plants need to be touching for mites to walk around)**

a) Feltiella (gall midge, can fly)

b) Phytoseiulus macropilus (active in temperatures above 30ºC)

c) Neoseiulus californicus (active in temperatures above 30ºC)

d) Phytoseiulus macropilus (active in temperatures below 30ºC, use for hotspots)

Biocontrol: Creating an Environment for Success Workshop

Ronald Valentin, Biobest Biological Systems / Susanne Wainwright-Evans, Buglady Consulting /
Graeme Murphy, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs

Reasons why biocontrol programs do <u>not</u> work

Commitment, pesticide residue, identification of pest, product quality, missed shipment, bad information, application error, lack of scouting, takes time, not curative, communication

- Europe: “plant reports” (what has been done to a plant) are becoming standard information supplied when plants are shipped
- dipping incoming plant material into solutions of *Steinernema* and Botaniguard has worked

Shorefly control

Biocontrol agents: Hypoaspsis / Atheta / nematode (*Steinernema carpocapsae*)
Note: *Steinernema feltiae* is used for fungus gnat control

Aphid control

- Banker plants system work best for aphids (vs. other pests), specifically for green peach and melon aphids (use *Aphidius colemani*)

Parasitic wasps:

- *Aphidius colemani* (peach and cotton aphids, aphids turn brown, not good in high temps)
- *Aphidius ervi* (potato and foxglove aphids, aphids turn brown)
- *Aphidius matricariae* (red form of green peach aphid)
- *Aphelinus abdmonialis* (foxglove, potato, rose aphids, aphids turn black)
- *Aphidoletes* (need 100 W of light, swirski likes aphidoletes eggs and impacts the program)

Whitefly control

a) Parasitic wasps

- *Encarsia formosa* (greenhouse whitefly)
- *Eretmocerus eremicus* (greenhouse whitefly, Bemisia
- *Eretmocerus mudus (Besmisia)*

b) Swirskii (predator mite, may not be needed)

c) Delphastus (predator beetle, works well when population of whiteflies is high)