

A Nonchemical Method for Monitoring Adult Olive Weevil Populations in Tadla-Azilal Plain in Morocco

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Abstract

The Tadla-Azilal region is one of the major olive areas in Morocco. It produces 10,000 tons of olive oil a year in an area of about 47,650 hectares, which represents 13% of the Moroccan olive oil production.

In this region, olive weevil becomes one of the most important olive pests that olive growers are unable to monitor efficiently. This is because the chemical control is expensive and of low efficiency and its application should be done at night, which complicates the task for olive growers.

This article presents the results of an alternative nonchemical method we developed using polyester fiber as a trap (PFT). This alternative method is of a high efficiency and low cost compared to chemical control and its use might be suggested to organic olive farmers.

In light of this work, we recommend studying the lifetime of PFT under field conditions and its possible negative effect on olive trees.

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