

control of this weed pest. The plant, like most members of the milkweed family, is apparently unpalatable to most animals and insects. A mildew-like disease, orange colored aphids and pod beetles have been observed on the vines at times. However, none of these appear to be of commercial importance. Cooperating agricultural agencies in areas of South America from which the vine originates have been requested to report any natural enemy which may be keeping it under control effectively.

The milkweed vine is a most dangerous weed and continues to pose a very serious threat to the citrus industry. All growers are, therefore, encouraged to embark on a long-term program of control, be it mechanical, chemical, or a combination of both. The expense of treating large areas in mature groves with herbicides and the prospect of re-infestation from adjoining groves may be discouraging, however, both expense and effort is entirely justified when the consequences are considered. For those growers not presently plagued by this pest, its inclusion in the grove inspection

check list is sound advice. Removal of the entire plant is essential, using hand labor if necessary, as individual vines appear. Satisfactory results from a weed control program are always more assured if the vines are treated at an early stage of development. It is not expected that this vine will be eradicated in the near future but a concerted effort by *all* growers at its control and curtailment of its spread will go a long way towards this end.

The authors are devoting a considerable amount of time to the control of this weed and solicit the cooperation of growers in developing an overall program of control.

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FIELD TESTING AIRBLAST SPRAYERS FOR FLORIDA CITRUS

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ABSTRACT

An experiment conducted in a 35-acre 'Pine-apple' orange grove compared 6 low volume sprayers with a standard dilute sprayer in the application of a citrus spray program. The overall superiority of the dilute sprayer was demonstrated in this experiment. The dilute sprayer and the S.S. 607 Hi-con provided significantly longer citrus rust mite control than the RSM, S.S. 757 at 6X, 1/8th gal and 3X, 1/4th gal at 2 mph. A significantly higher percentage of fruit were damaged by scale insects from plots sprayed by the Myers 2A42 and the S.S. 607 Hi-con. Melanose control was poor in plots sprayed with the RSM and Myers 2A42 sprayers.

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INTRODUCTION

Methods of pesticide application are often overshadowed by reports on the effectiveness of the pesticides themselves. The thoroughness of application of citrus pesticides is equally as important as the selection of the pesticide. In the case of citrus snow scale control, thorough coverage of all the woody portions of the tree is more important than the choice of a pesticide.

Workers at the A.R.E.C. (Citrus Experiment Station at Lake Alfred) have conducted research on a continuing basis to evaluate the effectiveness of spray equipment offered to the Florida citrus grower. Thompson (3) and King et al. (2) suggested improvements in existing equipment. Brooks (1) reviewed the contributions of various Florida workers in improving application equipment.

In recent years, Florida citrus growers have expressed considerable interest in low volume applications to supplement or replace dilute applications. Whitney (4) suggested reducing gallons per acre as a possible way to reduce application costs. The experiment reported here compared

