

ANSWERS FROM EXPERTS



NUFARM

· RICK FLETCHER ·

EXPERT

At Nufarm, we believe knowledge grows success. And since our team is committed to your growing success, we want to share all we know with you.

INSECT RESISTANCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Q With summer approaching, why is now a good time to focus on insect resistance management strategies?

A As the temperature increases, the insect population cycle shortens. This causes more and more insects throughout the summer. Typically there's a bell curve that starts mid April, peaks in August and drops off again in October. Insects are very active during this curve, so it's important the grower is diligent about controlling them.

The major insects to focus on are aphids, thrips, mites and scales. As foliage develops, the new growth is very succulent offering a ready food source. Spray interval, the use of contact and systemics, and mode of action rotation of are all required for effective insect management.

Q Why is insecticide rotation crucial to an insect resistance management program?

A Rotating between insecticides with different modes of action prevents insects from becoming accustomed and gaining resistance to a certain product. A spray program ensures an insecticide is not used more than three times in succession.

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