The Efficacy of two commercial miticides (APISTAN[™] and APIGARD[™]) for the control of Varroa mites

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[Abstract]

Varroa mite (Varroa jacobdoni) was first reported in Jamaica, affecting honeybees, on February 8, 1999. The efficacy of two commercial miticides (APISTANTM – 10% *Tau-fluvalinate* and APIGARDTM – 25% Thymol) for the control of Varroa mite, were tested. Treatments were applied to Langstroth beehives in a randomized complete block design with four replicates. Colonies treated with APISTANTM showed a Varroa mite kill of 93.6% with mean daily mite fall of 118.1 in 14 days and 97.9% with mean daily mite fall of 5.4 in the second 14 days. Colonies treated with APIGARDTM showed a Varroa mite kill of 66.5% with means daily fall of 53.1 in 14 days and 97.0% with mean daily mite fall of 24.4 in the second 14 days. Mite population in APISTANTM and APIGARDTM treated hives were reduced by 99.9% and 93.3% respectively within 56 days. APISTANTM works faster, and is generally more effective than APIGARDTM for the control of Varroa mites.

Proceedings of the 2nd Caribbean Beekeeping Congress, Gingerland, Nevis, West Indies 14-18 August, 2000, 89 - 95