

Estidamah Biological Control Protocol Controls Tuta Absoluta Population In Glasshouse - Tomato



Adult Tuta Absoluta



Larva of Tuta Absoluta



Nesidiocoris



Miridae

Background

Tuta Absoluta is a major destructive pest of tomato in KSA and Worldwide. Tuta Absoluta is characterized by high reproduction potential. It attacks whole plant organs through growing season. Each female may lay up to 300 eggs and 10-12 generations per year that might cause up to 100% crop loss.

Objectives

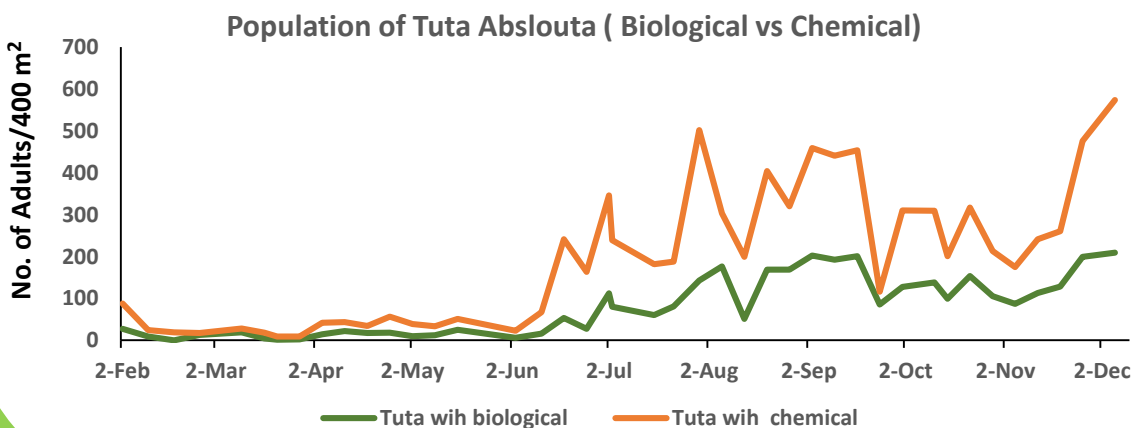
- Mitigate Tuta Absoluta population below economical threshold
- Introduce a valuable Biological Control Protocols for KSA local growers

Treatments

- Two natural enemies (Nesidiocoris – Miridae) were released in Hi-Tech glasshouse (400m²) from Jan-Dec. 2020, in comparison to normal chemical control

Results

- Natural enemies elucidated a promising technique to minimize Tuta absoluta inside Greenhouses.
- In summer growing months, biological control reduced population of Tuta Absoluta.



Conclusion

- ❖ Biological control applications are one of the most promising practices in greenhouses in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.