

Integrated Pest Management to Control the Coffee Berry Borer, *Hypothenemus hampei*, in Colombia

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SUMMARY

Hypothenemus hampei is the main pest of coffee in Colombia. Since its introduction in 1988, Cenicafé, the research center of the National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia, has been conducting studies toward the implementation of an IPM program against this pest. Main emphasis has been given to the development of biological control using parasitoids and entomopathogens. The bethylids, *Cephalonomia stephanoderis* and *Prorops nasuta* and the mycopathogens *Beauveria bassiana* and *Metarhizium anisopliae*, are now being mass produced.

The first step has been the introduction of these biocontrol agents to all the borer infested areas and the enhancement of natural enemies by discouraging the use of chemical insecticides. A second step is the integration of these biocontrol agents with cultural practices which can reduce borer populations both in the field and at the parchment coffee processing. So far 60 million parasitoids have been released in coffee plantations and during 1994 about 100 tons of *B. bassiana* and *M. anisopliae* were produced to control the borer. The extension service is also guiding farmers on the correct implementation of Cenicafé's recommendation against this pest.