

The Potential Use of Petroleum Spray Oil, D-D Tron Plus, as a Component of Integrated Pest Management in Kenya

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SUMMARY

The D-C Tron Plus, an oil formulated insecticide (Petroleum spray oil) was field assessed for its impact on management of Coffee Green Scale, *Coccus alpinus De Lotto* and its ability to sustain and conserve the Green Scale's biocontrol agents, particularly the predators (lady birds) and parasitoids. The assessment was carried out in two coffee farms from year 2000-2003.

Three rates of D-C Tron plus; 50, 100 and 200 mls per 20 litres of water were assessed. The untreated plots were incorporated as the control. The three rates significantly managed the Green scale's infestations as compared to the control. The same rates and the control, when compared with the banded coffee trees showed significantly equal levels of mean number of ladybirds per tree and parasitism, thus indicating the sustainability of Green Scale's biocontrol agents.

The findings from this study have indicated the suitability of D-C Tron Plus as a biorational pesticide in integrated Pest Management Programs in coffee farming in Kenya.