EVALUATION OF NOVEL ACARACIDES FOR THE RATIONAL CONTROL OF SPIDER MITES IN STRAWBERRIES

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Nine acaricide treatments were evaluated for control of a population of two-spotted spider mites (TSSM), *Tetranychus urticae* Koch, on 1 year-old potted 'Totem' strawberries. Treatments were replicated 6 times on individual plants in a RCB design. Sprays were applied with an R&D CO₂ backpack sprayer using 3, D3-45 nozzles arranged in an inverted U at 40 psi and 2 mph to deliver 52 gpa. Sampling was done 5 and 16 days after treatment (DAT) using a mite brushing machine to remove the mites from 2 leaflets per plant and counting the total number of motile mites.

All treatments except Brigade significantly reduced the number of mites per leaflet as compared to the control 5 DAT. All treatments significantly reduced the number of mites per leaflet as compared with the control 16 DAT (Table 1).

Table 1

Chemical/form	Rate	Mites/leaflet	
	AI/acre	5 DAT	16 DAT
Agrimek 0.15EC	0.009	3.33b	1.50b
Agrimek 0.15EC	0.019	0.00b	1.00b
Alert 2SC	0.32	0.00b	0.83b
Brigade 10WP	0.10	12.17ab	2.33b
Pyramite 60WP	0.40	5.17b	0.67b
Savey 50WP	0.25	1.67b	0.50b
Vendex 50WP	1.00	2.25b	0.33b
Savey 50WP +	0.25	0.83b	0.17b
Vendex 50WP	1.00		
Untreated check		25.83a	32.16a

Means within columns followed by the same letter are not significantly different (P < 0.05; LSD).