

Preliminary Research Concerning the Application of Vermicompost on Aphid Control in Cherry

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ABSTRACT

There is a growing interest for sustainable agriculture as a response to consumer's health interest. Vermicompost is a product that answers to this demand. Due to the complex chemical composition it can be used both as a fertilizer, and pesticide. The experiment was conducted in laboratory conditions. On infested branches with black cherries aphids, three different concentrations of liquid vermicompost were applied. The variants were separated by an insulator made from solid framework covered with gauze and each of them consisted in three replicates. The data was registered at 24h, 48h, and 72h when the number of dead individuals was rated and at seven days when both alive and dead individuals were counted. Regarding the effect of liquid vermicompost concentration, the highest mortality was obtained in variant 2 (1:5) with a percentage of 82.72%. Variant 3 follows with the most concentrated solution of vermicompost (1:3), but a lower percentage 73.84%. In variant 1 (1:10) the mortality was of 70.59%, this represents the lowest value registered.

Keywords: *black cherry aphid, Myzus cerasi F., organic orchard, vermicompost.*
