Pepper Weevil Management

BotaniGard ES and Provado® 1.6F Combinations

Pepper weevil is a severe and persistent problem in most pepper growing regions. Adult pepper weevils feed on fruit and leaf buds and lay eggs on flowers, buds and fruit. Larvae feed inside pepper pods. This causes premature fruit drop and can result in significant crop loss. Even small infestation levels can hurt pepper quality and yield, reducing the value of the crop.

Damage caused by pepper weevil can be reduced with weekly sprays of insecticides, alone or in combination. However increasing regulatory restrictions and increased incidence of insect resistance to conventional pesticides have limited the alternatives available to growers. A tank mix of BotaniGard ES and Provado 1.6F provides an effective and safe solution to the pepper weevil problem.

Field trials conducted over the last three years have demonstrated that a combination treatment of BotaniGard ES plus Provado 1.6F has resulted in a greater degree of control than the most common industry standards.

Replicated field trials conducted in Florida and Mexico have shown this combination consistently reduces the amount of crop damage caused by pepper weevil.

Application timing is the key to success with the BotaniGard/Provado combination. A frequent, accurate scouting program can be used to determine when to begin spraying.

Where pepper weevils are known to be a problem, spraying should begin at the bud stage (approximately 1-2 weeks before flowering). Applications should continue on a 5-7 day schedule for the duration of the cropping period. This combination will also help protect the pepper plants from other insect pests including whitefly and aphids.

Trials have been successful where 1 pint of BotaniGard ES is combined with 3.75 fl. oz. Provado 1.6F, or where one quart of BotaniGard ES is combined with 1.88 fl. oz. Provado.