

APPLICATION RATE TRIALS WITH A NUCLEAR POLYHEDROSIS VIRUS TO CONTROL *Spodoptera frugiperda* (SMITH) ON MAIZE IN BRAZIL.

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Different concentrations of a wettable powder of nuclear polyhedrosis virus formulation were applied as an aqueous suspension to control of *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Smith) larvae on maize using a tractor mounted or a coastal-manual sprayer, compared to an untreated control. Efficacy assessments were based on the mortality factors. Results indicated that the dose will depend on the application equipment. When applied with a coastal-manual sprayer it can be use the dose of 2.5×10^{11} p.i.b. ha⁻¹ but the residual is very short. A greater residual period will be obtained with doses over 1.25×10^{12} p.i.b. ha⁻¹. For the tractor-mounted sprayer application a dose of at least 2.5×10^{12} p.i.b. ha⁻¹ will be necessary to get a control compared to that obtained with the coastal-manual sprayer application. The occurrence of parasitoids in the experimental field increased the larval mortality rate independent on the application methodology.