

INFORMATION FROM PROFESSOR V. SOROKER, Dept. of Entomology, Agricultural Research Organization

PHEROMONE TRAPS

- These are essential and **MUST** be put up as soon as possible! The traps are easy to make and the pheromone can be obtained from Chemtica in Costa Rica. www.chemtica.com
- Adults fly mainly in warm weather but are still flying now.

INFECTION

- Cherry pickers should be used to inspect the crown of all palms.
- One of the first signs of an infected tree is that one or more leaves look as if they have been cut off and just hang down against the trunk (pictures available)

TREATMENT

- The crown of any infected trees must be wrapped in netting until they can be treated. This is to stop any adults from flying to other trees.
- Newly-infected trees must have the top cut back to new wood where there is no sign of infection (grubs, holes).
- Their stumps must be treated with insecticide) and wrapped to prevent any adults landing on them.
- To protect palms inject systemic pesticides and spray crown and trunk with Chlorpyrifos
- Palms irrigated by drip irrigation can be treated with Confidor.
 - Once cut off, infected material should be wrapped securely until it can be burned before burial.
 - Dead trees must be wrapped, dug up and burned because they can still hold grubs and pupae.

IF WE ALL WORK TOGETHER TO IDENTIFY AND TREAT INFECTED PALMS, MANY OF THEM CAN BE SAVED AND WE CAN SLOW DOWN OR STOP THE SPREAD OF THIS WEEVIL.

PLEASE NOTE: The weevils will attack ANY palm but the Canary Palm is the preferred host. The Canary Palm will also hold more grubs and adults than other species and so poses a greater risk.

It is better not to plant any palms at the moment, but if you must, please avoid using the Canary Palm.