

### 1997 N.Y.S. IPM Research Final Report

**Title:** Development of an Action Threshold and Management Strategies for Mirid Bugs on Apples  
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Mullein plant bug (MPB) has been described as having a "Jekyll and Hyde" personality, switching from being a damaging fruit-feeder one season to a beneficial predator the next. The mechanism for this switching behavior is not known and it cannot now be predicted, but apparently 1997 was a Dr. Jekyll season. MPB nymphs were abundant in most of our trials this year, but damage was difficult to find in the early season evaluations. Nymph numbers as high as four times our preliminary threshold estimate were observed, but resulted in only slight damage, even in check plots. For that reason, little information was to be had regarding the efficacy of imidacloprid (Provado) and other insecticides, the timing of fruit damage or the determination of an action threshold. However, although insecticide efficacy is best judged in terms of fruit damage, we can compare the effects of insecticide treatments on nymphs (Tables 1 & 2).

For a printed copy of the entire report, please contact the NYS IPM office at:

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