

Evaluation of Seasonal Variations in Carcinops pumilio Dispersal and Potential for Suppression of Dispersal Behavior

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Abstract

Seasonal dispersal of Carcinops pumilio collected using two trapping methods, the Hister HouseTM and a black light pitfall trap were examined in the laboratory. The largest number of hister beetles captured with black lights (201,000) occurred in April while the greatest dispersal (70%) in the arenas both occurred with beetles collected in May. The greatest dispersal (68%) from Hister HouseTM collections occurred in April with June collections providing the greatest numbers of beetles per trap. Regardless of trapping method, dispersal and beetle collections declined from June through October. The trend in November indicates that although beetles were difficult to collect in traps, those that were placed in experimental arenas dispersed at a high rate (40 to 50%). Currently, there is insufficient data to determine if photoperiod alteration has an impact on suppression or induction of dispersal behavior.

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