



TOBACCO RESEARCH BOARD
KUTSAGA

TELEPHONE: (263 - 24) 2575 289
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TELEGRAMS: "TOBRES"
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www.kutsaga.co.zw

P.O. BOX 1909
HARARE
ZIMBABWE

*Please address all
correspondence to
the General Manager*

12 September 2018

To: All Tobacco Growers

cc: Contractors

Merchants

Growers Associations

Dear Grower,

**APHID ALERT: MANAGEMENT OF TOBACCO APHID VECTORS IN THE SEEDBEDS
AND LANDS**

The Tobacco Research Board has received a number of alarming reports on incidences of aphids in tobacco seedbeds. No doubt, this is as a result of prevalent tobacco stalks from the past season. It is an established fact that tobacco plants still in the field after the legislated stalk destruction deadline of May 15 provide a host for the tobacco aphid to reproduce and a high and potentially virus-infected aphid population can easily survive and be carried over into the seedbeds. This population begins a new cycle of infection which will eventually be carried to the field.

Besides tobacco, aphids can also survive on alternative hosts in the solanaceous family such as tomatoes and potatoes and growing of these crops on the same farm is discouraged.



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Growers are, therefore, advised to take the following measures in-order to manage aphids and reduce the incidence of aphid-transmitted viral diseases:

1. Conventional Seedbeds

Sow seed that is already coated with an aphicide **OR** use the following insecticides from 4 weeks after germination:

INSECTICIDE	RATE/100 L WATER	
	DRENCH	SPRAY
DIMETHOATE	190 ml (1 L mix/m ²)	380 ml (500 ml/m ²)
THIAMETHOXAM 25 WG	27 g (1,5 L mix/m ²)	-
THIACLOPRID 48 SC	-	60 ml (500 ml/m ²)

2. Floatbeds

INSECTICIDE	Rate of application	Target amount/72 trays (≡ 1 ha)
IMIDACLOPRID 200 SL	5 ml/100 L pond water	85 ml/1700 L pond water
THIAMETHOXAM 25 WG	4 g/100 L pond water	68 g/1 700 L water
ACETAMIPRID 20 SP	5 g/100 L @ 2 L mix/tray drench	7.2 g/144 L water



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3. At planting

The following insecticides provide a preventative treatment and are effective for up to 8 weeks after planting. Apply one "30" fertiliser cup of one of the aphicides at planting into the planting hole:

1. THIAMETHOXAM 25 WG	125 g/100 litres water
2. THIAMETHOXAM + ABAMECTIN	556 ml/100 litres water
3. IMIDACLOPRID 200 SL	220 ml/100 litres water
4. IMIDACLOPRID 350 SC	127 ml/100 litres water
5. IMIDACLOPRID 70 WG	63 g/100 litres water
6. IMIDACLOPRID + LAMBDAHALOTHHRIN	220 ml/100 litres water
7. ACETAMIPRID + ABAMECTIN	166 ml/100 litres water

If you have any queries regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned or Plant Health Services Division at Kutsaga Research Station on 2575289-94 or toll free 0 800 4511.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Cleopas C. Chinheya

Plant Health Services Division

R. Mavuka

Crop Productivity Services Division