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EFFICACY OF DIATOMACEOUS EARTH FORMULATIONS ADMIXED WITH Spinosad PESTICIDE FOR CONTROL OF CONFUSED FLOUR BEETLE, Tribolium Confusum (Col.: Tenebrionidae)

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Confused flour beetle, Tribolium confusum (Coleoptera, Tenebrionidae), is one of the most important pest of stored products. Due to resistance to conventional, synthetic insecticides, alternative and more promising insecticides are needed to control this pest.. In the present study, the insecticidal effect of diatomaceous earth of Iran formulation (Sayan®) and the combined effect of Sayan® and Spinosad on T. confusum were investigated under laboratory conditions. The experiments were carried out on 5-6-day-old adults of T. confusum using dilutions 0 (control), 50, 80, 126, 200, 315 and 500 ppm of Sayan[®], and dilutions 0 (control), 10, 17, 30, 51, 87 and 150 ppm of Spinosad. The results showed that LC50 values of Sayan® and Spinosad for T. confusum adults were 183.28 and 95.00 ppm, respectively. There was no significant change in the efficiency of Sayan® during a 4-month period, assuring that this insecticide maintain its effect for a sufficient time. In addition, the combined effect of Sayan® and Spinosad on adult mortality was significantly greater than that of Sayan® alone. It comes to the sight that Savan® in combination with Spinosad give a satisfactory results from both the pest management and ecologically points of view, and can be used as an alternative to synthetic insecticides to control T. confusum in stored grains.

Keywords: confused flour beetle, diatomaceous earth, Spinosad, Sayan, Tribolium confusum, bioassay.

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