

C15-P

MANAGEMENT OF SWEETPOTATO LEAF BEETLE IN JAMAICA

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The sweetpotato leaf beetle, *Typophorus nigratus viridicyaneus* (Crotch) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae, Eumolpinae), has recently emerged as an important economic pest on sweetpotatoes in several parishes of Jamaica. The biology of this pest in Jamaica was studied. Through the IPM CRSP project, we have been developing new IPM techniques for managing this pest in sweetpotatoes. New resistant varieties from the USDA, ARS Laboratory in Charleston, SC were evaluated in Jamaica, and several showed high levels of resistance to the sweetpotato leaf beetle. Several chemical and biological insecticides were also evaluated in conjunction with the pest resistant cultivars. A combination of fipronyl and the resistant cultivars 'White Regal' or PI 531116 provided excellent control of this pest. Other materials, including a garlic extract, also showed promising levels of control of sweetpotato leaf beetle larvae.