

## ISCA Pitfall Trap (AR970)

(Optimized for Red Palm Weevil)

Updated: 07/06/2012

### BACKGROUND

The red palm weevil (RPW) *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* is widely considered to be the most damaging insect pest of palm trees. The larvae of the RPW cause damage by burrowing into the trunk of the palm tree which weakens the tree and ultimately results in its death. In some areas, RPW can also contribute to the spread of dangerous diseases. If not effectively monitored and controlled, a palm tree infested with RPW larvae will serve as a host for the larvae to feed, and emerge from the tree as adults to infest other trees, while the host tree will die in less than one year.

### CONTENTS

Each trap includes:

- 1 plastic bowl
- 1 black pyramid
- 1 green top cover
- 1 green lure basket with lid
- 4 ties for attaching bowl

### ASSEMBLING THE TRAP



#### STEP 1

Fill the bowl with approximately 2 liters of water. To significantly increase attraction, include a food attractant in the water. The best food attractants include either pieces of pineapple or hearts of palm.



#### STEP 2 (optional)

The two holes at the top of the black pyramid can be used to hang a supplemental lure, such as ethyl acetate.



#### STEP 3

Insert zip tie from below, through the opening in the bowl and up through the corresponding hole in the trap. Use the second zip tie to latch onto this one, tighten until the bowl is snug against the trap. Repeat for both sides.



#### STEP 4

Insert pheromone lure in the lure basket and replace the cap. Attach the green top cover with basket to the black pyramid.



#### STEP 5

Place the trap on a flat surface. Be sure there is no gap between the ground and the trap.

#### USING THE TRAP

Traps should be placed directly on the ground, at least 2 meters from the tree if possible.

For prevention, use 2-4 traps per hectare, organized in a perimeter. For control, use 5-8 traps per hectare. Trap densities will depend on pest pressure, increase the number of traps for heavily infested areas.

#### TRAP MAINTAINANCE

1. Pheromone lures are effective for 20-26 weeks, after which they should be replaced.
2. Food attractant in the water basin should be changed every 7-10 days to maintain attractiveness.
3. Ensure that the water basin remains full. If the water level is low due to evaporation, replenish.

#### OTHER INFORMATION

1. Traps can be installed to the perimeter of an area in order to help prevent the weevil from entering.
2. ISCA Technologies conducts on-going research on RPW control. You should periodically check for updated information, which can be found over the internet and the ISCA Product Support website: <http://www.iscotech.com/exec/customersupport.html>. At this website, instruction sheets are periodically updated to incorporate latest information from research efforts. The password to access these instruction sheets is: isca951, or contact ISCA for the latest password.
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