

Western Flower Thrips in Vegetable Crops

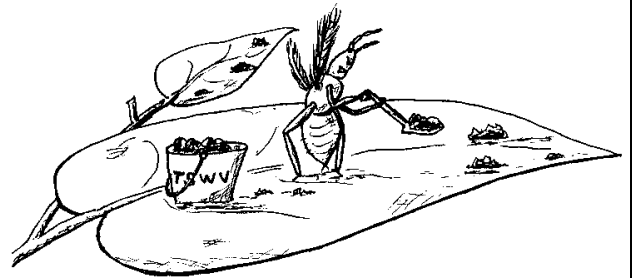
Western Flower Thrips (WFT) are costing Australian growers money - many growers across Australia have already suffered crop losses because of WFT.

WFT were first found in Australia in 1993. In the past 12 months WFT has been increasingly detected on vegetable crops across Australia.

Don't let your property be next!

WFT spreads Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus (TSWV).

Even though it is called Tomato spotted wilt the virus affects many other plants as well. Just some of the vegetable crops that can be infected with TSWV include: broad bean, cabbage, cauliflower celery, cucumber, eggplant, french bean, lettuce pea, capsicum, potato, spinach and tomato.



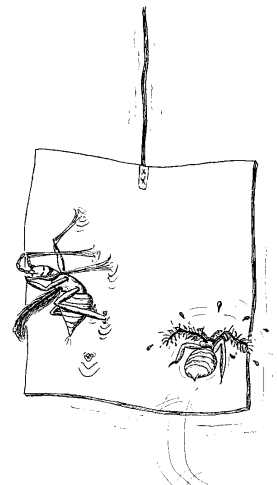
WFT develop resistance to chemicals very quickly.

If you suspect you have WFT in your crop contact your local department of agriculture for more information about managing your chemicals wisely.



WFT love weeds.

Maintain good hygiene around your crops to reduce the chance of WFT infection.



The combined effect of WFT and TSWV is far more damaging than WFT alone. Experiences in a range of vegetable crops have shown that WFT and TSWV can cause very serious crop losses.

Monitor regularly for WFT with sticky traps and inspect your plants by tapping the flowers over some white paper or onto a sticky trap

For more information about WFT or TSWV contact Alison Medhurst with the National Strategy for the Management of Western Flower Thrips and Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus. Phone 03 9210 9246.