

P.41 - Sublethal exposure to flufenoxuron affects the biological performance of *Tetranychus urticae*

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Effects of sublethal flufenoxuron exposure to the biological performance of *Tetranychus urticae* Koch was studied under laboratory conditions. Bioassay was used to assess the effect of different concentrations (0.25 to 2 ppm) of flufenoxuron on life-table parameters. The study showed that differences in the intrinsic rate of increase (r_m) were obtained only at the higher dose. At 2 ppm the net reproductive rate (R_0), the intrinsic rate of increase (r_m), and the finite rate of increase (λ) of treated females were lower than the control. Treated females showed an extremely low r_m value, resulting in a mean doubling time (DT) about one hundred fold increase in comparison to control. These results suggest that low concentrations of flufenoxuron could be enough to achieve a reduction in the population levels of *T. urticae* in integrated pest management programmes.