Lower Melon Fly Populations in 2001

Melon fly populations in Kula are relatively low in comparison to fly populations in the previous year (see graph to the right). Maintaining good in-field sanitation practices (removing culled fruit from fields) can help promote low melon fly populations on-farm.

In addition, the new protein bait, GF-120 is being applied to wild host areas within the grid region of Kula. Currently, there is a 24 (c) Special Local Needs Registration for GF-120 under the Hawaii Department of Agriculture. However, GF-120 will not be released for general sale until local performance data is obtained.

HAW-FLYPM team members, led by extension agent, Robin Shimabuku will conduct a field trial to obtain GF-120 performance data on cooperating farms. GF-120 will be compared against standard growers’ practices. Data such as marketability, percent loss due to fruit fly damage, pesticide application and population counts will be collected and utilized for evaluation purposes.

Much more to come…

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