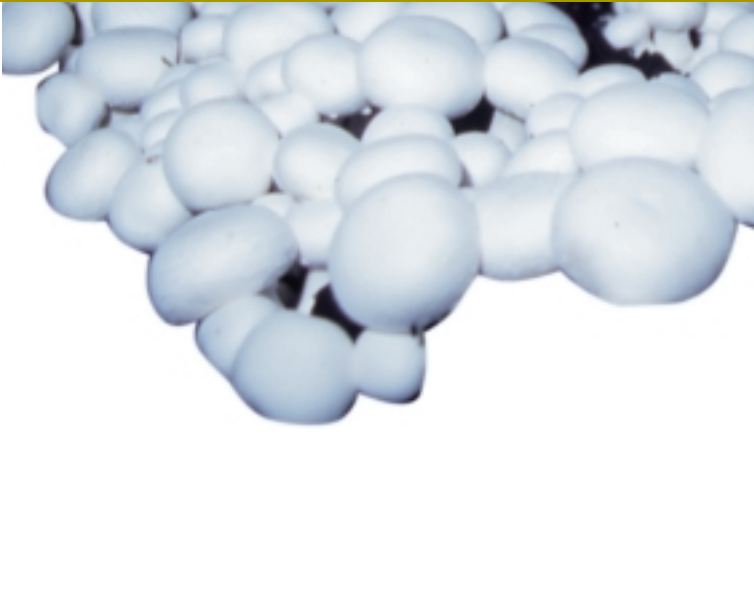




nemacel®
 Biological Control of
Mushroom Sciarids



THE PROBLEM

Sciarid Flies (*Lycoriella sp.*, *Bradysia sp.*)

Sciarid flies are the most damaging insect pest in commercial mushroom production. Larvae cause yield loss of up to 40 % and, more importantly, impact quality rating. Occurrence of adults in pre-packed mushrooms can cause rejection by retailers.



Sciarid fly

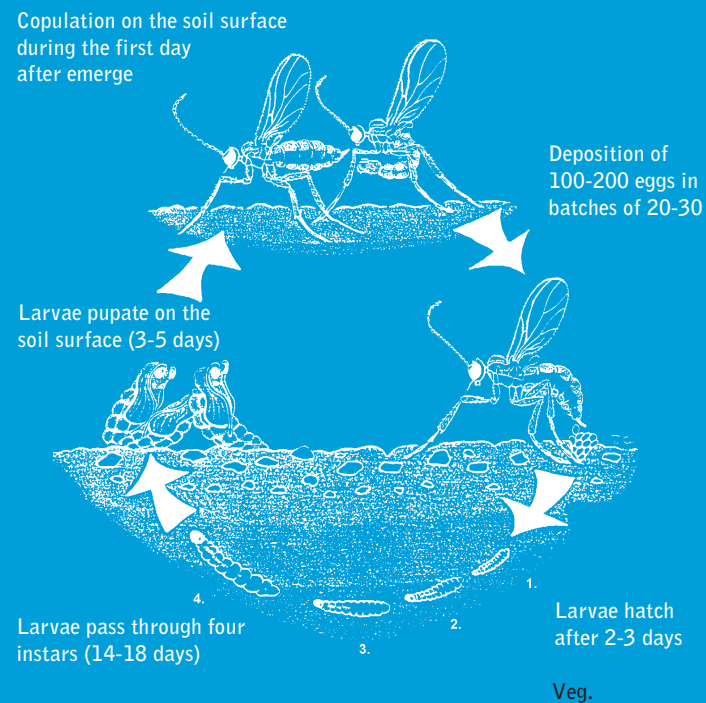
Adult sciarids are small, black flies, of 3 to 5 mm (0,1 to 0,2 inches), with two slender antennae and long legs. They spread fungal spores and mites, and can be a nuisance for picking staff.



Sciarid larva, transparent with distinct shiny black head

Main damage is caused by the larvae feeding on growing mycelium and developing pinheads and buttons. They tunnel in the stalks and caps of larger mushrooms.

LIFE CYCLE OF SCIARID FLIES



Adult flies live for 7 days in which gravid females lay approx. 200 eggs in unspawned compost and casing soil. At mushroom growing temperatures, the life cycle takes about 4 weeks.

The short life cycle together with the high propagation rate can lead to extreme increases in fly numbers, particularly towards the end of the cropping period. Flies develop resistance to chemicals within a short period of time. nemacel® provides the perfect solution, since resistance development to entomopathogenic nematodes is not possible.

Unlike insect growth regulators, nemacel® does not reduce mushroom yield. nemacel® has a minor effect on phorids.

THE SOLUTION

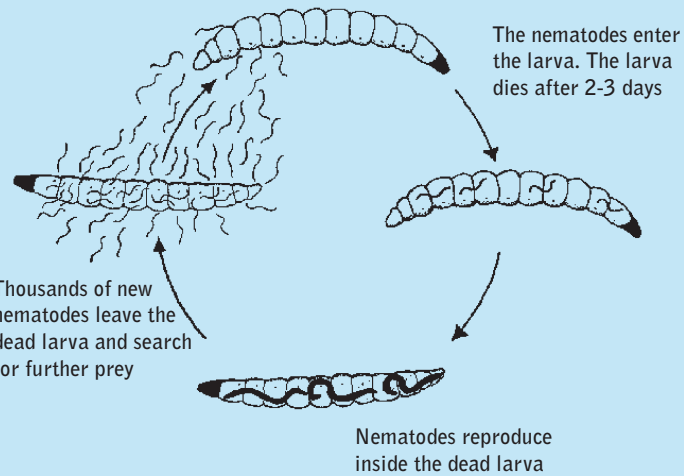
nemacel® contains insect-pathogenic nematodes of the species *Steinernema feltiae*.



Sciariid larva infected with *Steinernema feltiae*

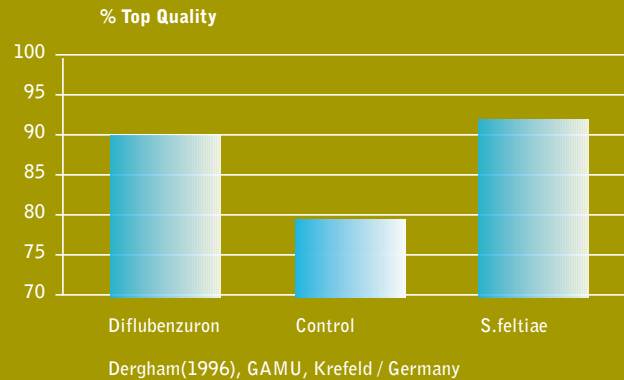
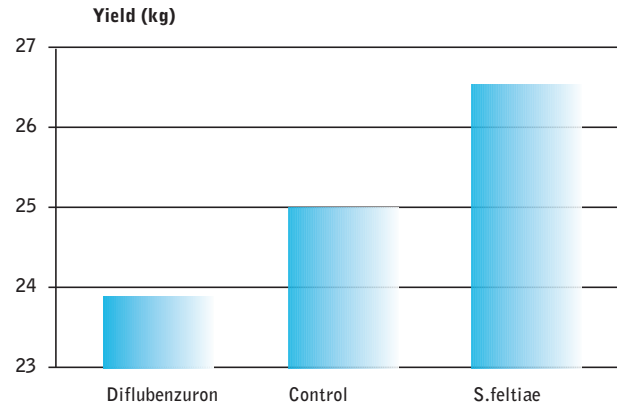
MODE OF ACTION

The nematodes actively search for sciariid larvae



Nematodes of the species *Steinernema feltiae*:

- are naturally occurring enemies of sciariid larvae
- kill sciariid larvae within a few hours
- are safe to mushrooms
- are safe to users, consumers and the environment.



Recommendations for use:

- nemacel® is applied to the casing layer as an aqueous suspension at 2 million nematodes per m² (190.000/sq.ft.)
- Splitting of the total dosage into two applications, the first at casing and the second a week later, is the most effective.
- nemacel® contains living organisms and works best if used as soon as possible after delivery. Product can be stored at 2 -12° C (36-54°F) up to the expiration date printed on the package.

Champignonmückenbekämpfung
Control of Mushroom Sciariids
Lutte contre la mouche de champignon
Lotta contro le Sciaride della fungaia
Control de la mosca del cultivo del champiñón



Need further information?
Please contact us! We would be pleased to answer your questions!

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