INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION OF A PREDATOR FOR BIOLOGICAL PEST CONTROL OF APHIDS

PATENTED TECHNOLOGY

EXCLUSIVE LICENSED

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ABSTRACT

A Spanish research group has developed an optimized protocol of breeding for a predator insect, *Sphaerophoria rueppellii*, for biological control of aphids pest, its natural enemy.

It is especially efficient in Mediterranean climates, where other predators cannot resist more than 25 ºC.

This technique avoids using pesticides, and it is indicated for agricultural, urban and garden use.

The research group is looking for companies interested in licensing this technology.

ADVANTAGES AND INNOVATIVE ASPECTS

ADVANTAGES:

- Reduction of the pesticides amount used in pest control of aphids, both vegetable crops and in gardens, and in urban areas where pesticide use is increasingly restricted by law.

- Species Sru is adapted to conditions of the Mediterranean area, including greenhouse, and its effectiveness in the media has been proved.

- Quality Control (under the rules of the International Organisation for Biological and Integrated Control), to ensure the viability and product quality may be applied.

INNOVATIVE ASPECTS:

- Eba does not effectively control aphid pests in Mediterranean climates. Sru has proved to have the greatest potential for control.

- First time this predator species is breeded in a laboratory.

MARKET APPLICATIONS

The larvae of the species *Sphaerophoria rueppellii* (Sru) is predator of more than 40 species of aphids. This wide range of predation, with the specific nature of their diet (aphids only), make this species the ideal candidate for biological control of aphids in the Mediterranean.

Detailed Market Application:

- Agriculture.

- Forestry.

- Fishing.
- Animal husbandry.
- Related products.

COLLABORATION SOUGHT

The group is looking for companies interested in acquiring the technology for commercial exploitation.