

Mating Disruption/SIR

3M™ Sprayable Pheromones

David Muir, Charlie Peatman and Mick Sawka  
3M Canada Company, London, Ontario, Canada

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Although 3M markets a highly diversified range of products, few people would associate the 3M Company name with agricultural products. In fact, 3M manufactures over 50,000 products, including such well-known brands as Post-it® Notes, Scotch™ Magic™ Tape, O-Cel-O™ sponges, Scotchgard™ Fabric Protectors and 3M™ Sandpaper.

In creating cost-effective, practical and reliable products, 3M invests heavily in research and development, drawing on nearly 30 technology platforms, ranging from adhesives and fluorochemicals to coated abrasives and pharmaceuticals.

One of 3M's most diverse technology platforms is that of microencapsulation, a technique whereby chemically active compounds are encapsulated within microscopic polymeric spheres such that the active ingredients can be released in a controlled fashion.

During the past three decades, 3M has pursued various applications of this technology, one of the most successful of which has been the encapsulation of insecticides.

3M™ Sprayable Pheromones are water-based concentrates containing microencapsulated insect pheromones that can be sprayed on crops to disrupt the mating of lepidopteran pests, thereby reducing the amount of crop damage associated with subsequent larval populations.

We propose providing a more in-depth discussion of the 3M™ Sprayable Pheromone products and their application in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs for both agricultural and forestry markets.