

Trap maintenance:

1. The sticky pads must be replaced biweekly.
2. Lures should be replaced every 8 weeks. Ensure that used lures are removed from the orchard and destroyed.
3. Traps are designed to last for at least 2 seasons provided they are properly maintained which entails removing them from the orchard after harvest and repositioning them at the beginning of October the following season.

Vine Mealybug identification:

Infruitec-Nietvoorbij supplies an identification and quantification service. Please also refer to your Agrochemical representative. Although small, the male mealybug can be identified with a hand held magnifying glass with a little bit of practice. The Vine Mealybug pheromone is species specific, making identification easier.

Interpretation of trap catches:

Graphing the trap counts gives a visual reference of the flight pattern and peaks in each orchard. Interpreting data should be done in conjunction with your Agrochemical representative and in consultation with researchers at Infruitec-Nietvoorbij in Stellenbosch. Used with information on insect biology and life cycles, the traps allow for efficient and advantageous timing of spray applications.

The trapping programme must be regarded as a valuable indicator of Vine Mealybug activity but a regular vine inspection programme must still be implemented as several factors, such as changes in temperature or wind patterns, may alter trap catches significantly.