

# Integration of Entomopathogenic Nematodes (EPNs) in Large Scale Agriculture Systems

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*White Grub,  
Maladera materida*



*Capnodis tenebionis*



*Red Palm Weevil  
Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*

# *White Grub, Maladera materida*

## Damage to peanuts





# Field trails

**Location:** Magen

**Treatments:** One appl. 500,000 IJ/m<sup>2</sup>  
Two appl. 250,000 IJ/m<sup>2</sup>  
Three appl. 175,000 IJ/m<sup>2</sup>

**Nematodes:** *H. bacteriophora*\* -MAGEN

Supplied by 'Koppert'

**Nematode monitoring:** 2-3 wk. from last application

**Effect on yield:** End of season, QC procedure.

\*Imported by BioBee'

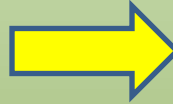


# Application procedure



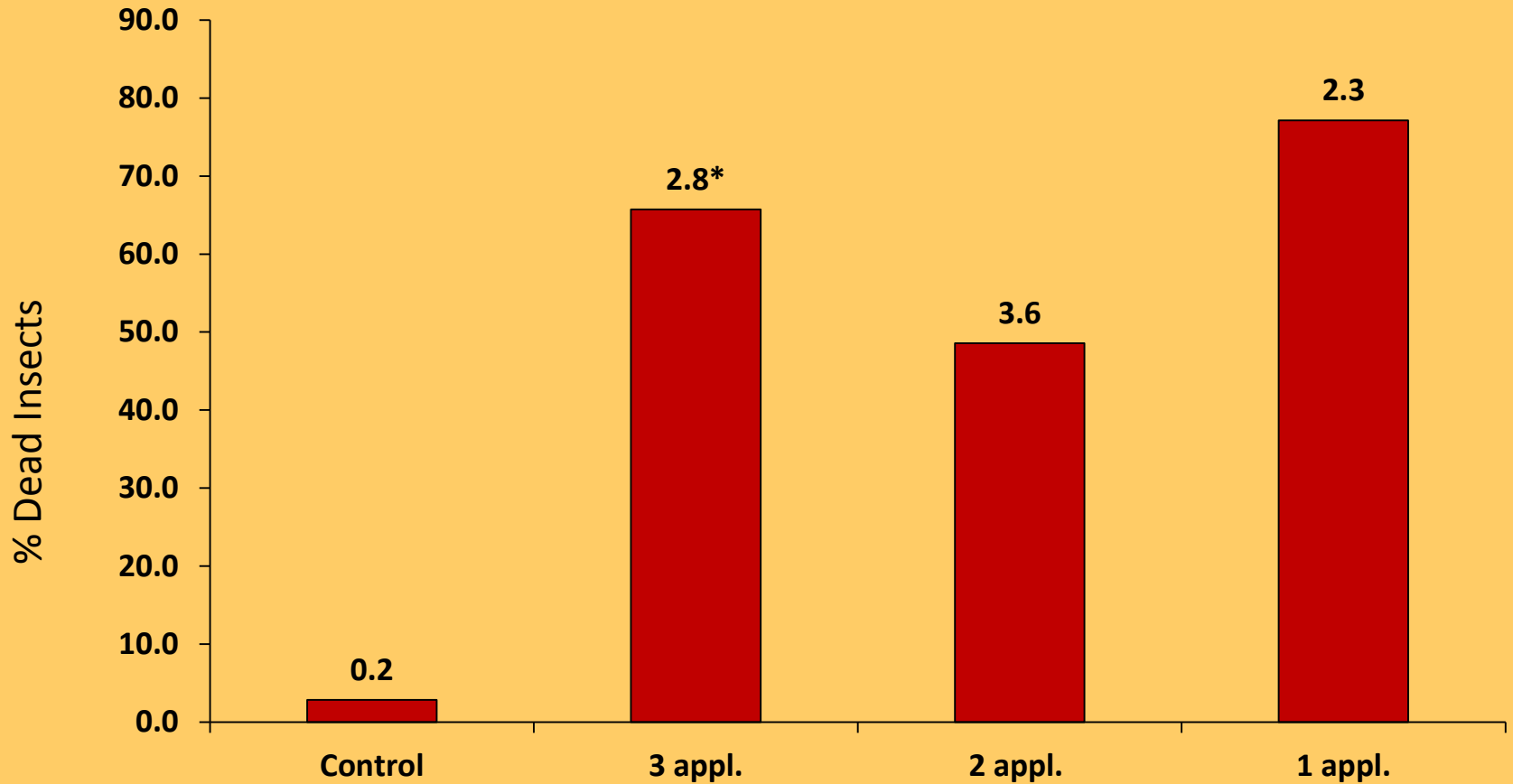


# Detection of nematode persistence



# Nematode activity 1<sup>st</sup> wave MAGEN

Magen- 1st wave

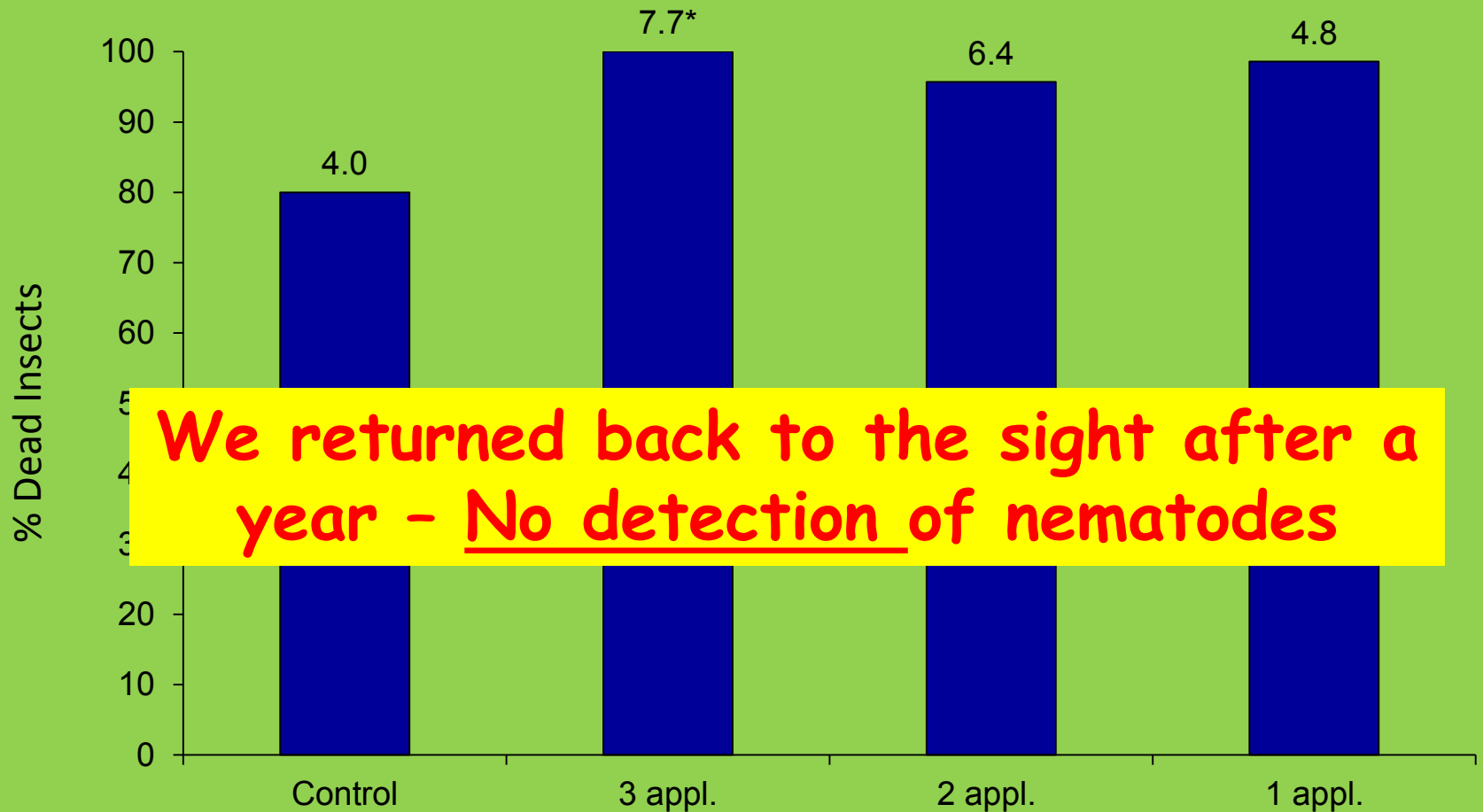


\* Number of Nematodes per Insect



# Nematode activity 2<sup>st</sup> wave MAGEN

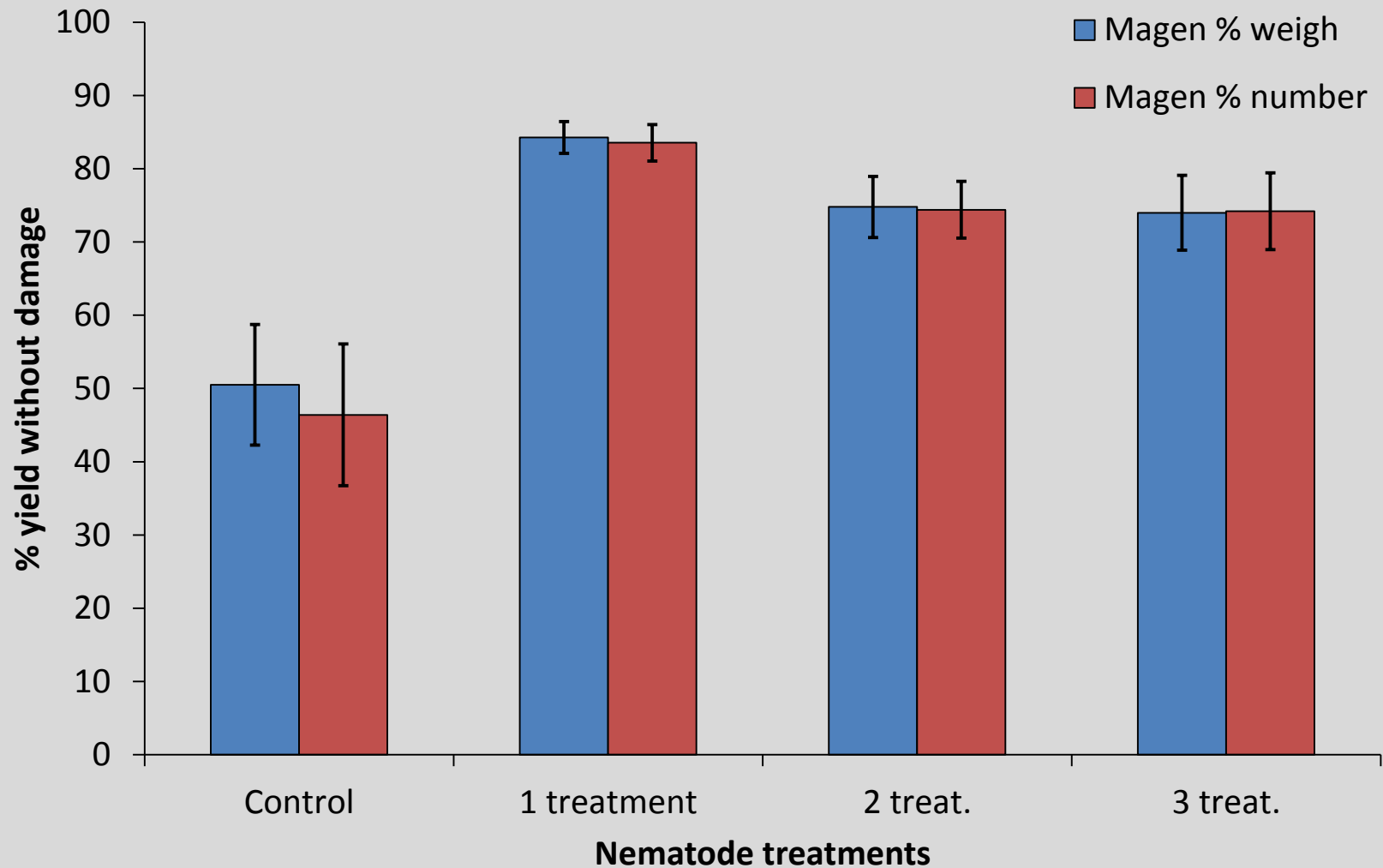
## Magen-2nd Wave



\* Number of Nematodes per Insect

# Effect of Nematode treatments on yield- **MAGEN**

## Magen- *H. bacteriophora*





# Field trails

Location: Magen

Treatments: One application per insect flight wave

## Application Techniques

Spraying: 500,000 IJ/m<sup>2</sup>

Injection: 500,000 IJ/m<sup>2</sup>

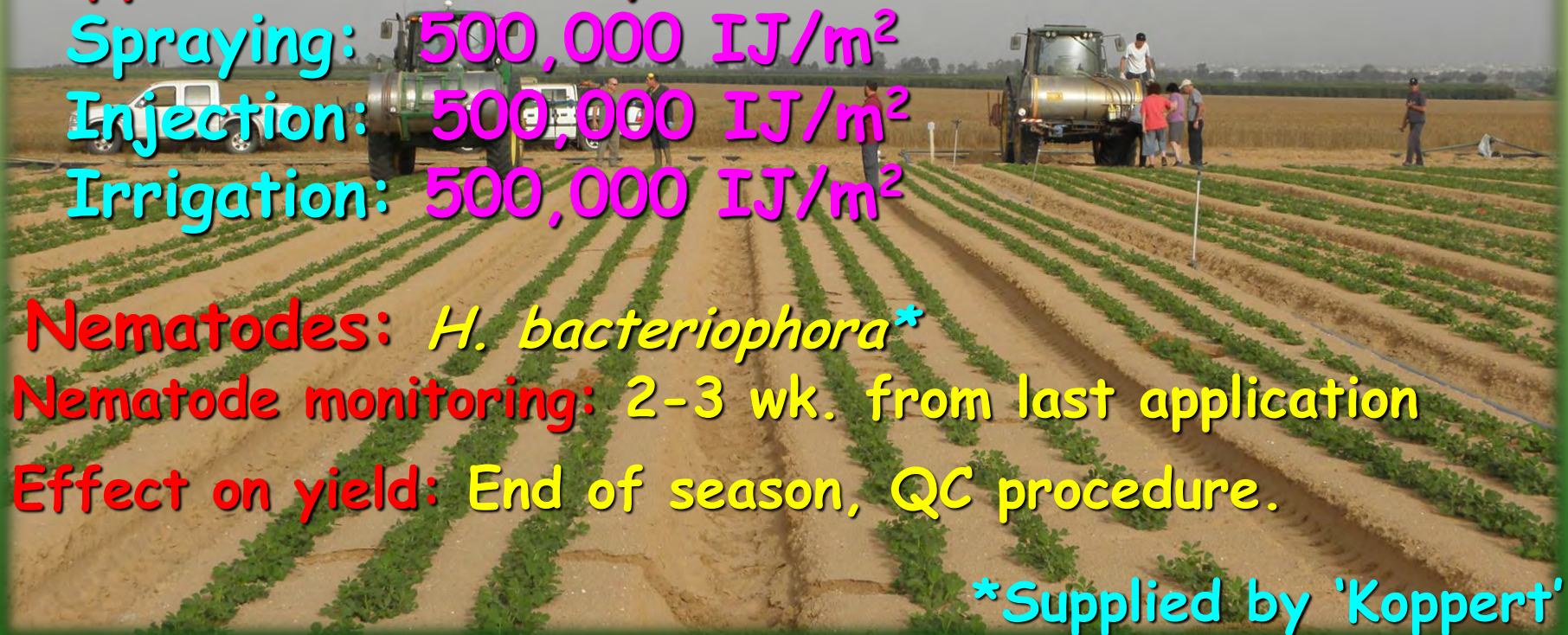
Irrigation: 500,000 IJ/m<sup>2</sup>

Nematodes: *H. bacteriophora*\*

Nematode monitoring: 2-3 wk. from last application

Effect on yield: End of season, QC procedure.

\*Supplied by 'Koppert'





# Application Techniques



Spraying



Injection



Irrigation



# Injection system

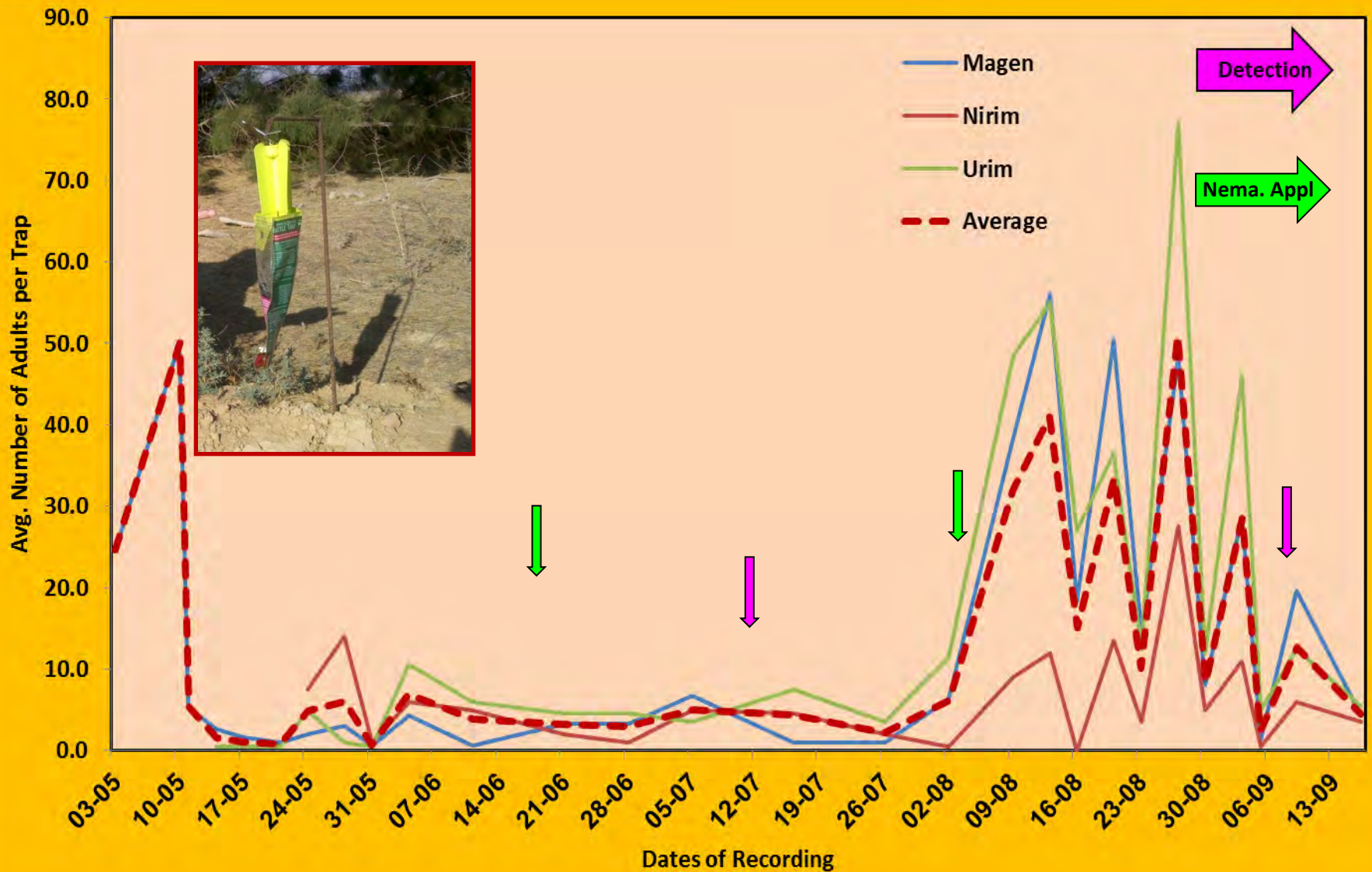


# Spraying equipment

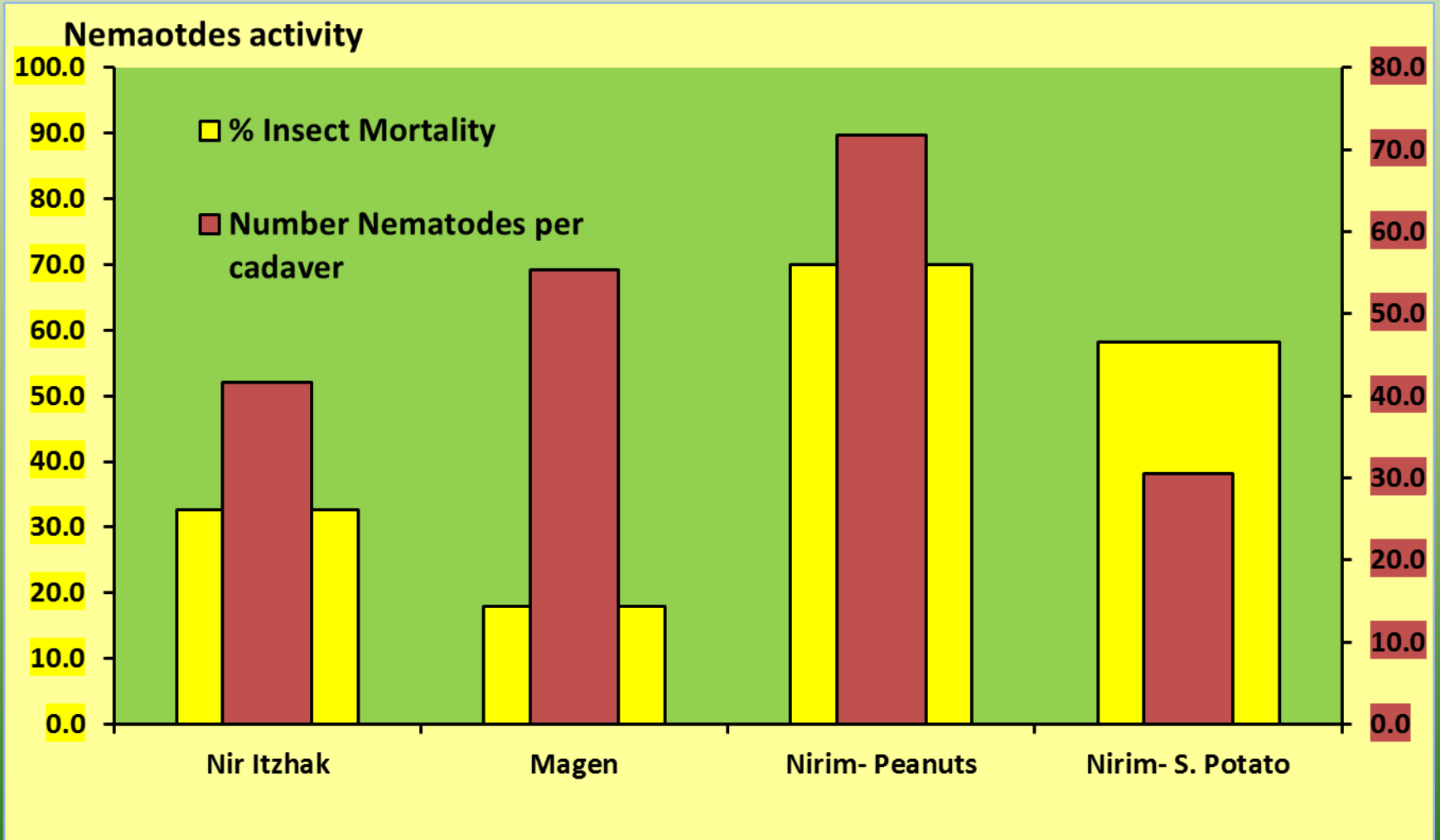




# Application Schedule

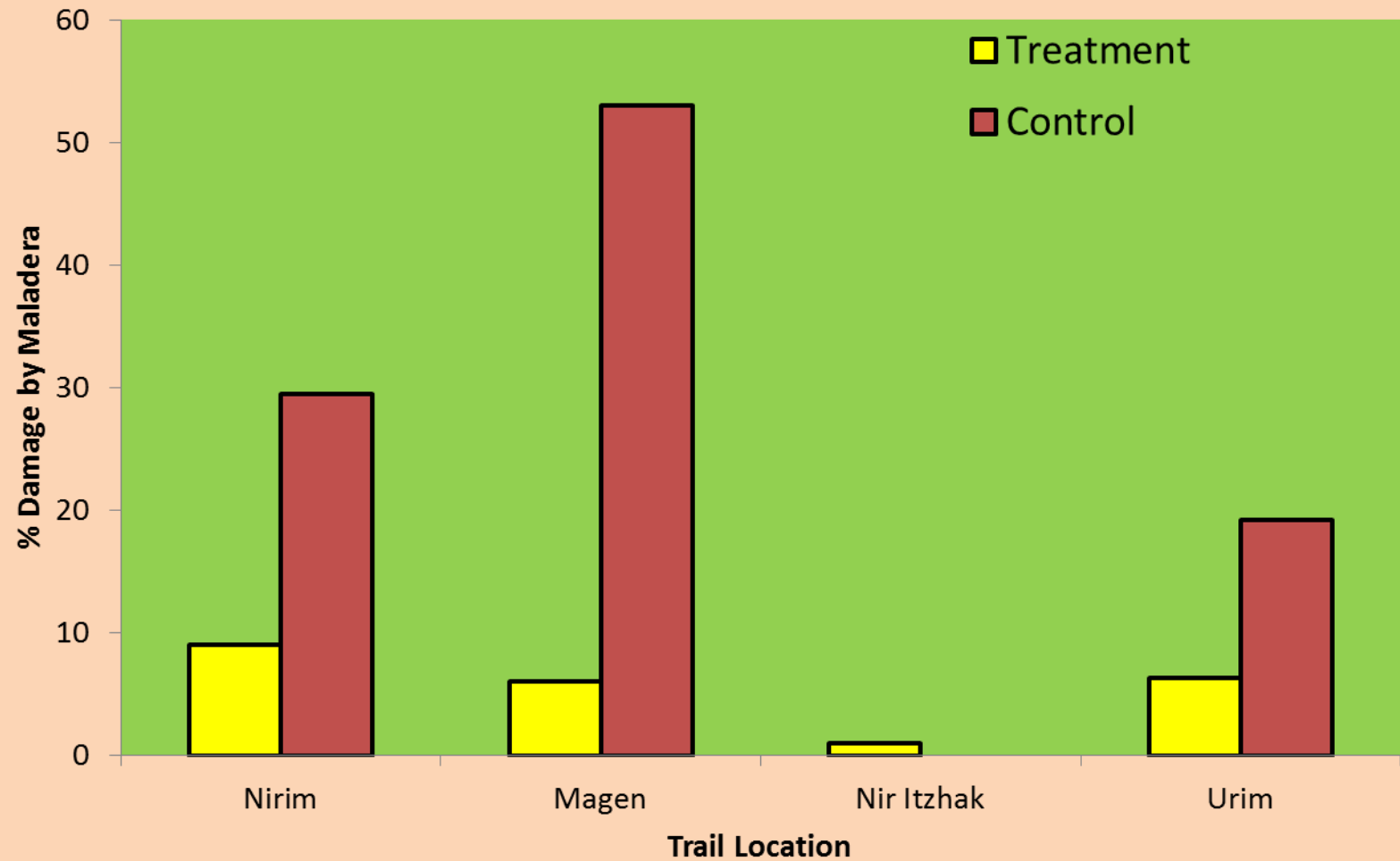


# Nematode activity in soil





# Damage of the pest





# Biological control of *Capnodis* by insect parasitic nematodes





**Rearing Capnodis Adults**



**Planting Apricot Trees**



**Release of fertilized Capnodis adults in net house**

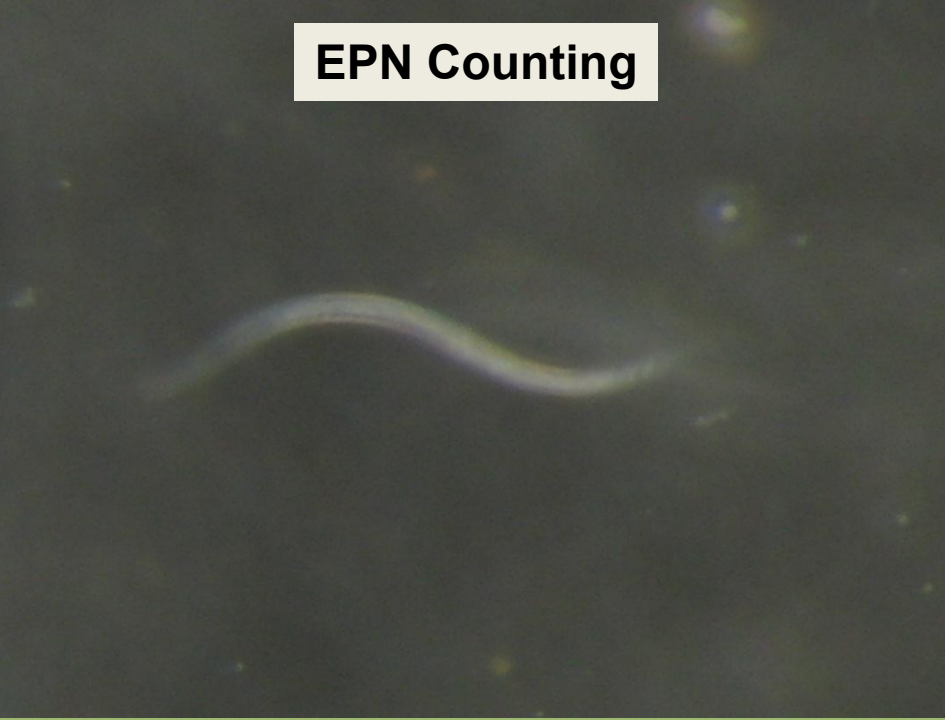


**Capnodis adults leave the cage independently**

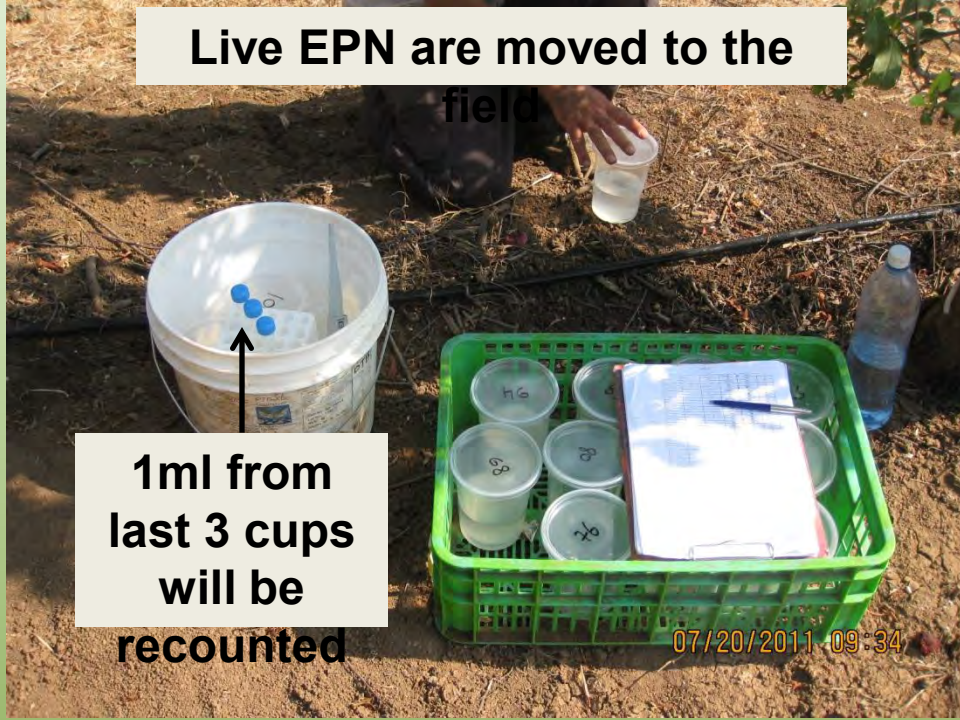




## EPN Counting



## Live EPN are moved to the field



1ml from  
last 3 cups  
will be  
recounted

## EPN Applied by drenching trunk





**Apricot in net house  
before Capnodis adults  
release**



**Apricot in net house ~3  
weeks after Capnodis adults  
release**

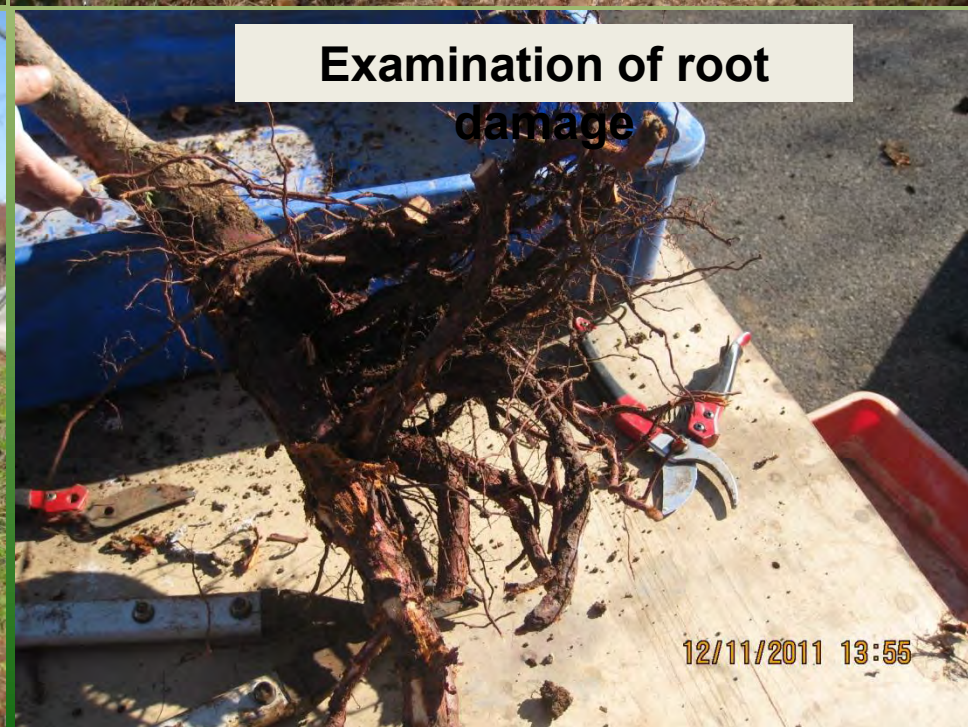


**High level  
damage**

**Removal of all apricot  
trees 6-8 month after trt.  
applied**



**Examination of root  
damage**





EPN applied ( $3 \times 10^6$ . Jul -Sep.  
2011)

in commercial plum infected  
orchard





**Soil sample 0-20 cm deep  
every 2 weeks after EPN  
applied**



**EPN application through drip  
irrigation**

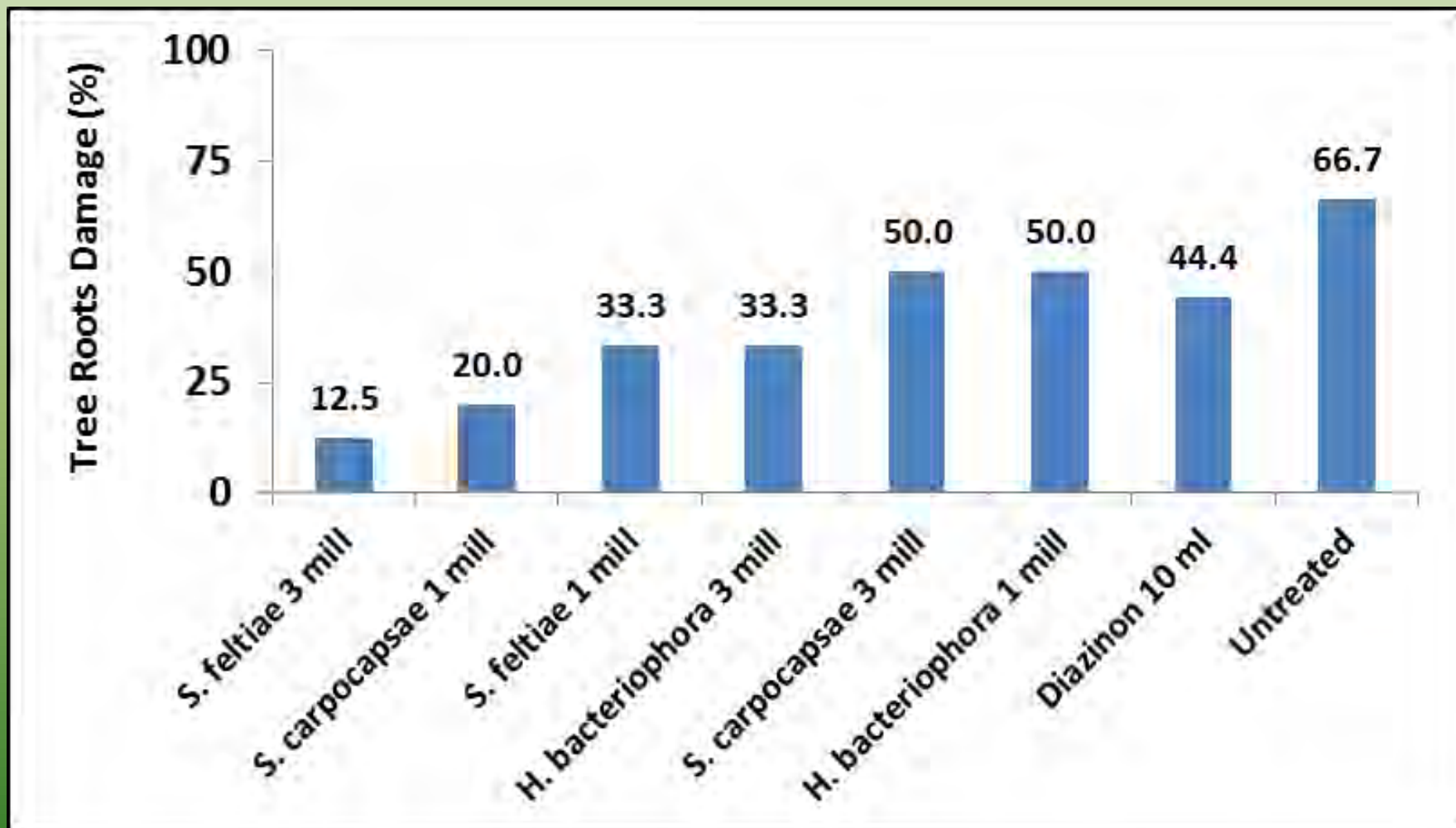






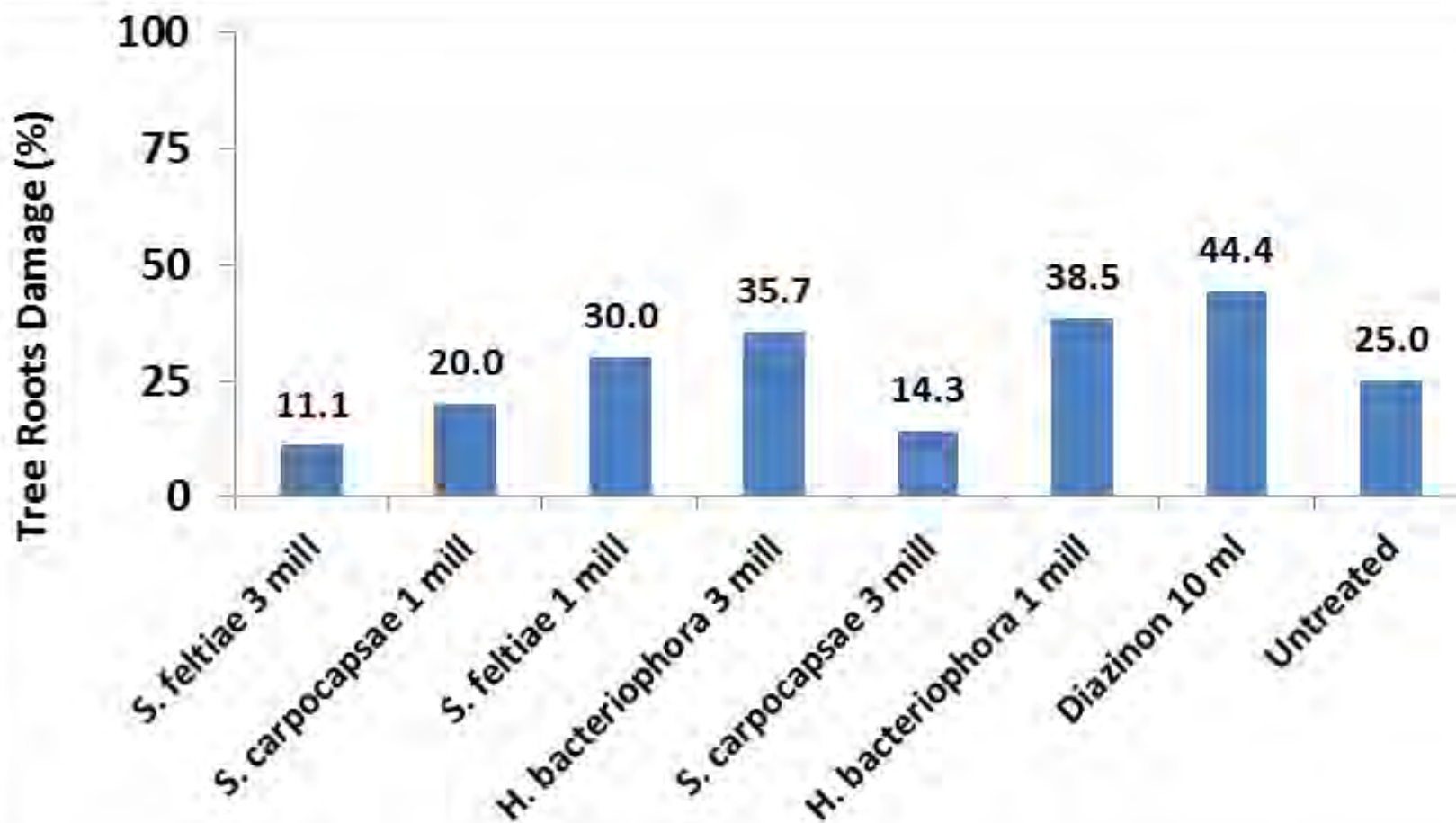
מהד"ס IPMC

## Results of Exp. 1

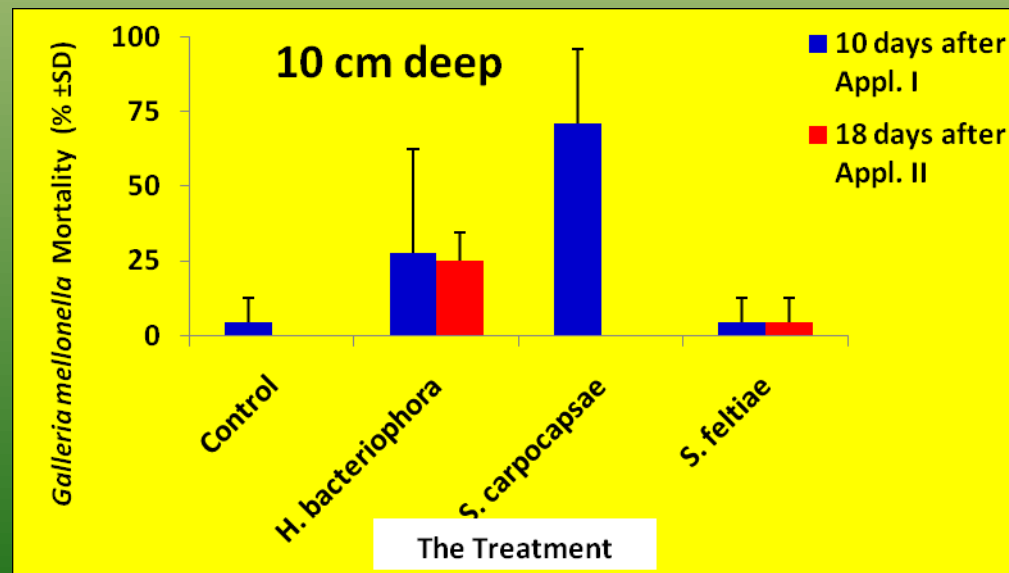
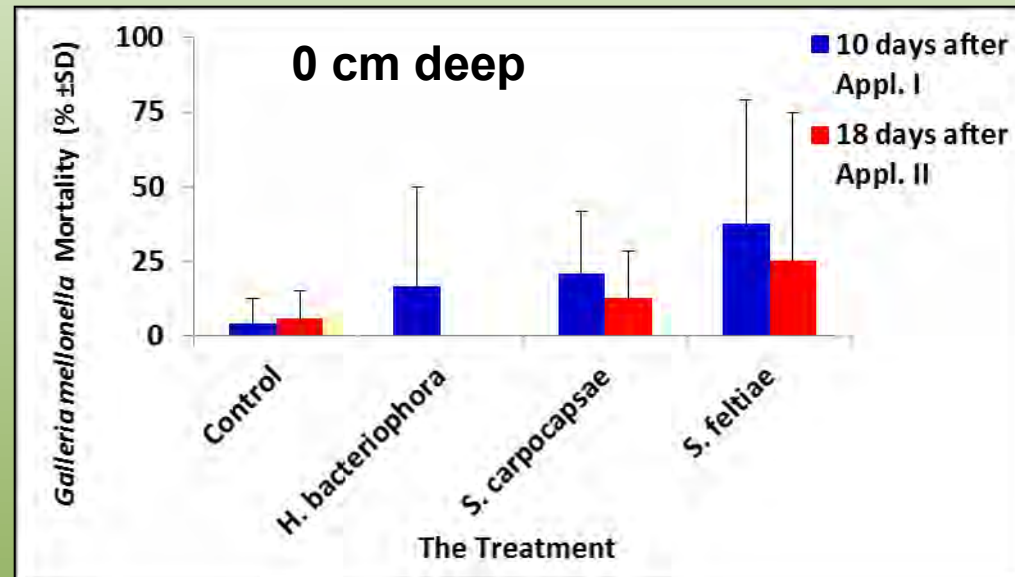




## Results of Exp. 2

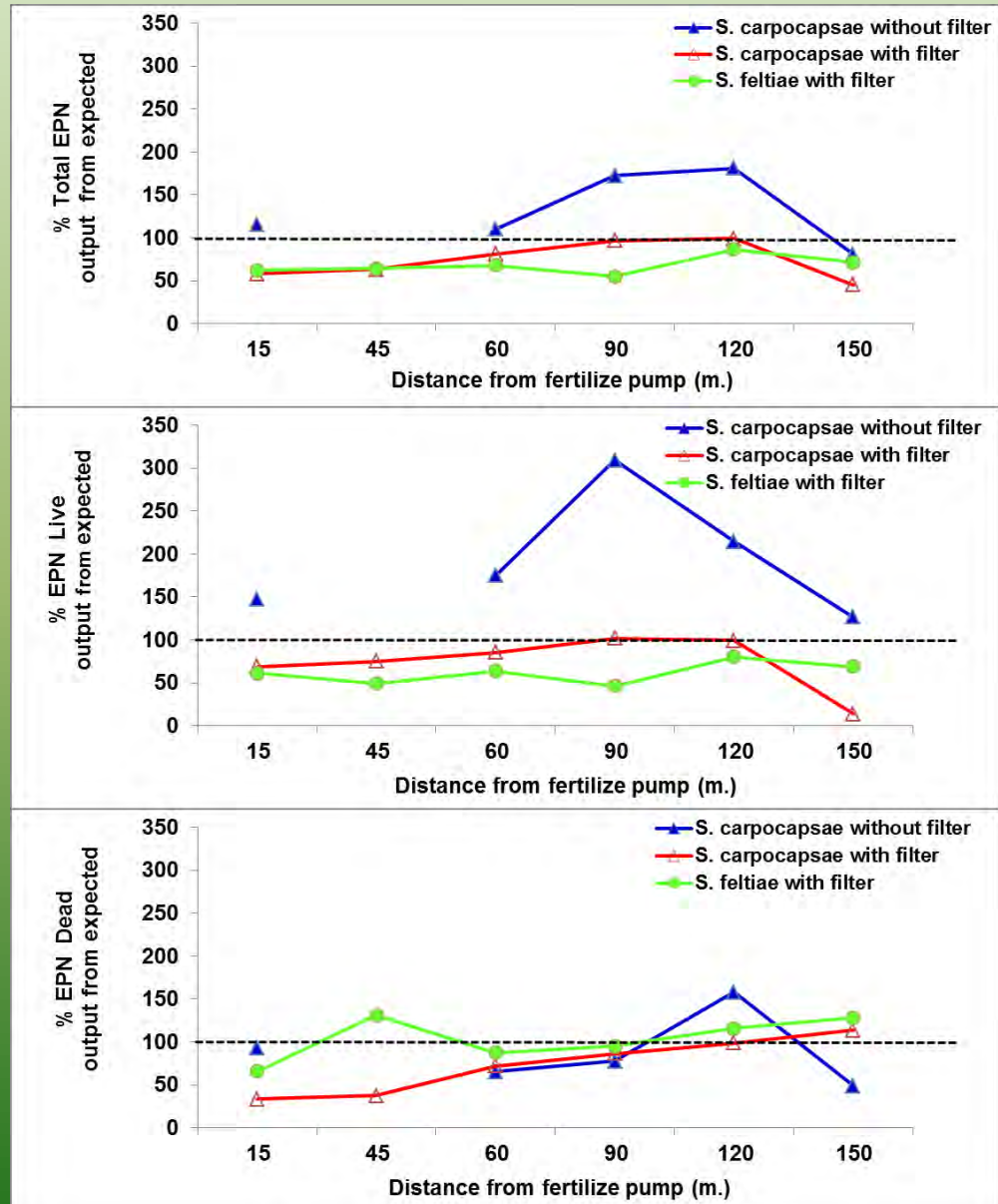


## Results of EPN persistence in soil sample





## EPN output from drip irrigation



# Use of EPN *Steinernema carpocapsae* (Sc-e) and *Heterorhabditis bacteriophora* (Hb-e) against the Red Palm weevil (*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*)

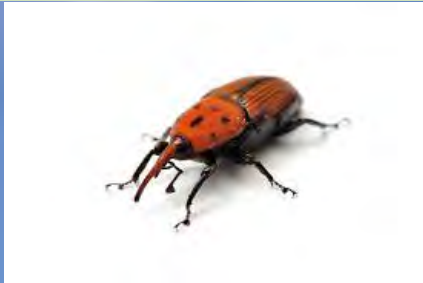
The Red Palm Weevil is a major  
pest of Date-Palms trees



It bores in the trunk and kill  
trees



# Damage to trees













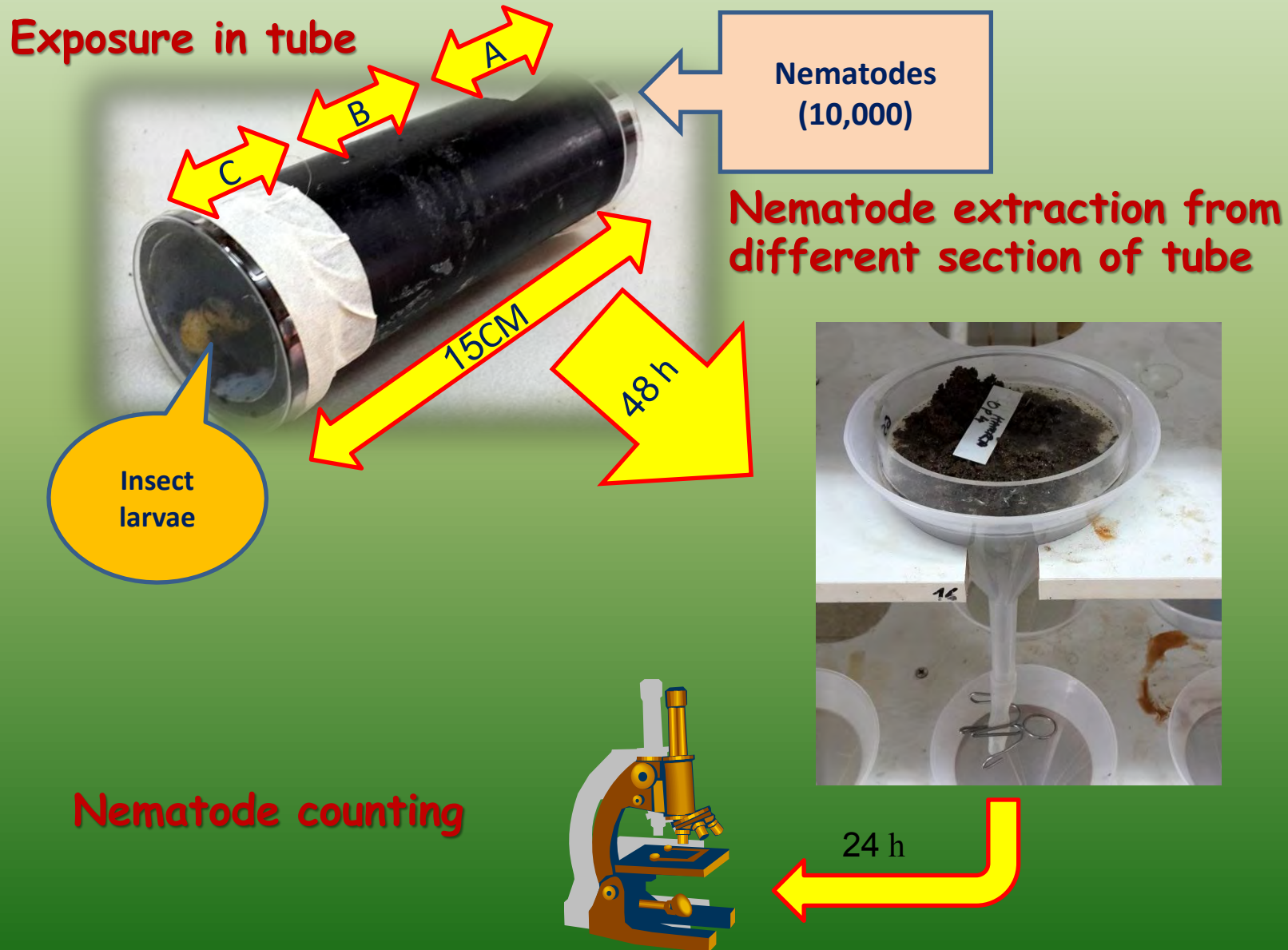


## Insect Larvae Movement in the Trunk





# Experimental system for characterization of nematode movement toward the insect



# Attraction of EPNs to Palm weevil at 25°C

Horizontal



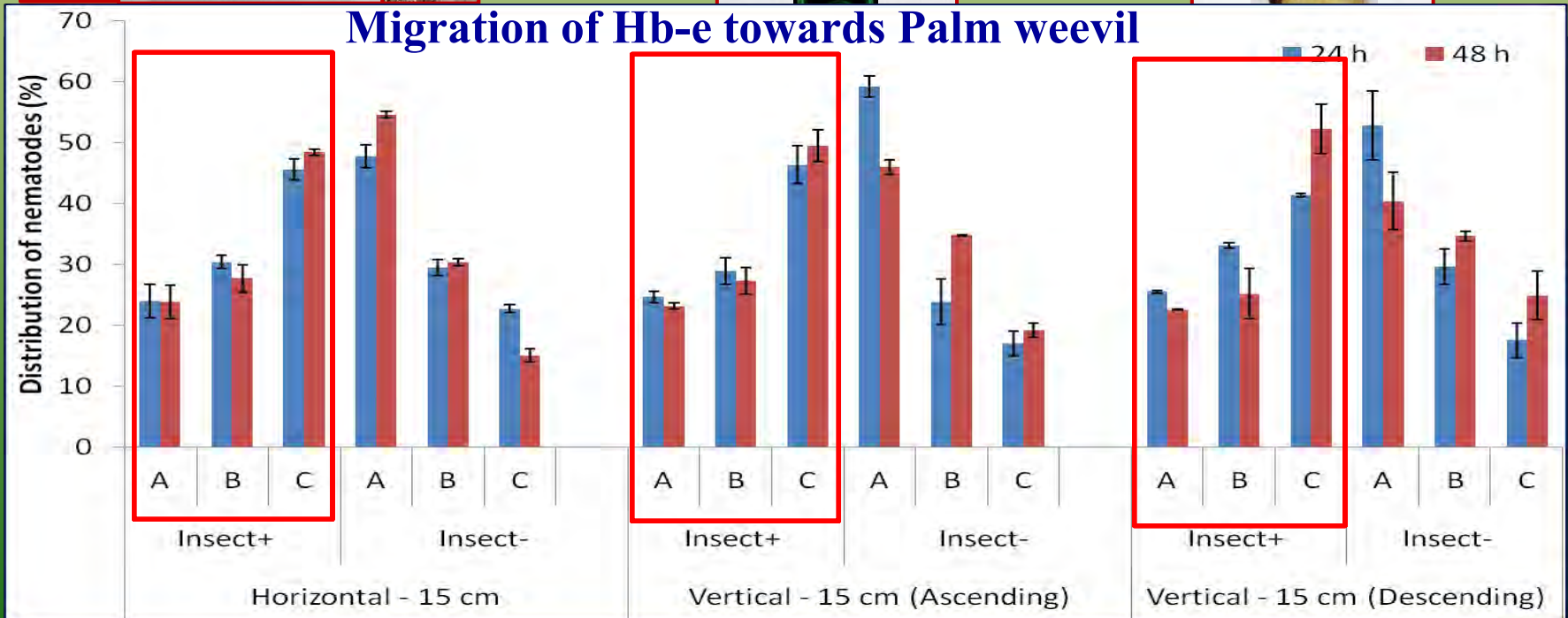
Vertical – 15 cm  
(Ascending)



Vertical – 15 cm  
(Descending)

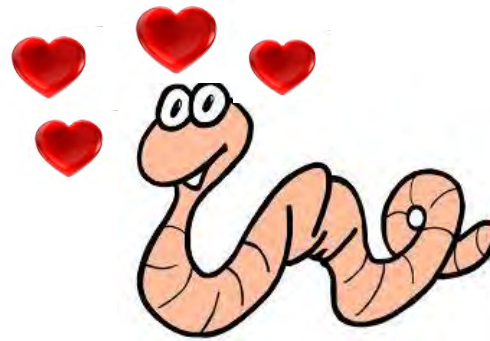
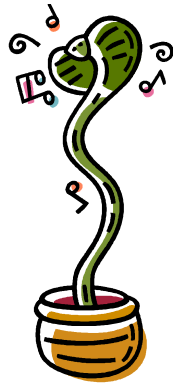


## Migration of Hb-e towards Palm weevil





# Effect of insect voices on EPNs behavior



# Detection of insect noises in the field

The Red Palm Weevil is a major pest of Date-Palm trees



It bores in the trunk and kill trees



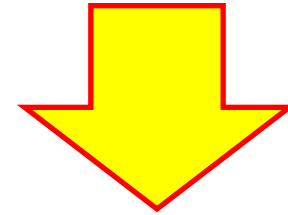
We recorded the noises made by the feeding insects



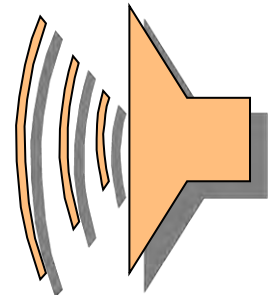
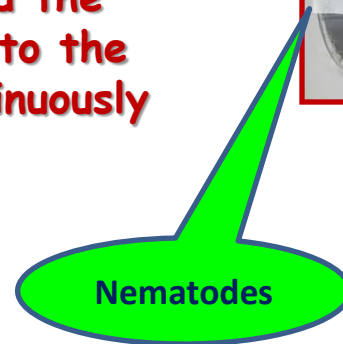




We built a device  
with a speaker that  
can be attached to  
the column

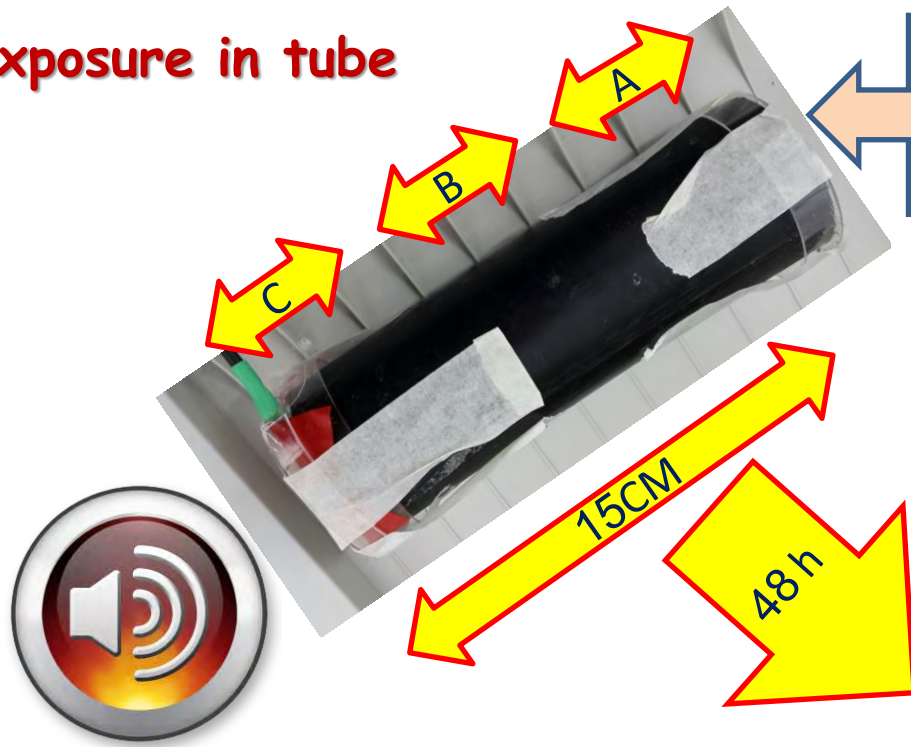


We exposed the  
nematodes to the  
noises continuously  
for 48 h



## Modification for evaluation of noise effect

Exposure in tube

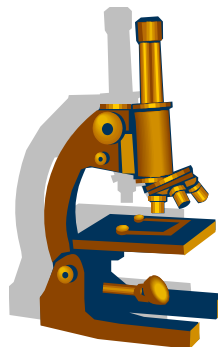


Nematodes  
)20,000(

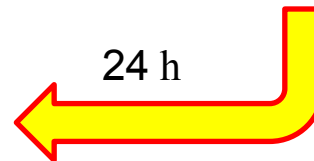
Nematode extraction from  
different section of tube



Nematode counting

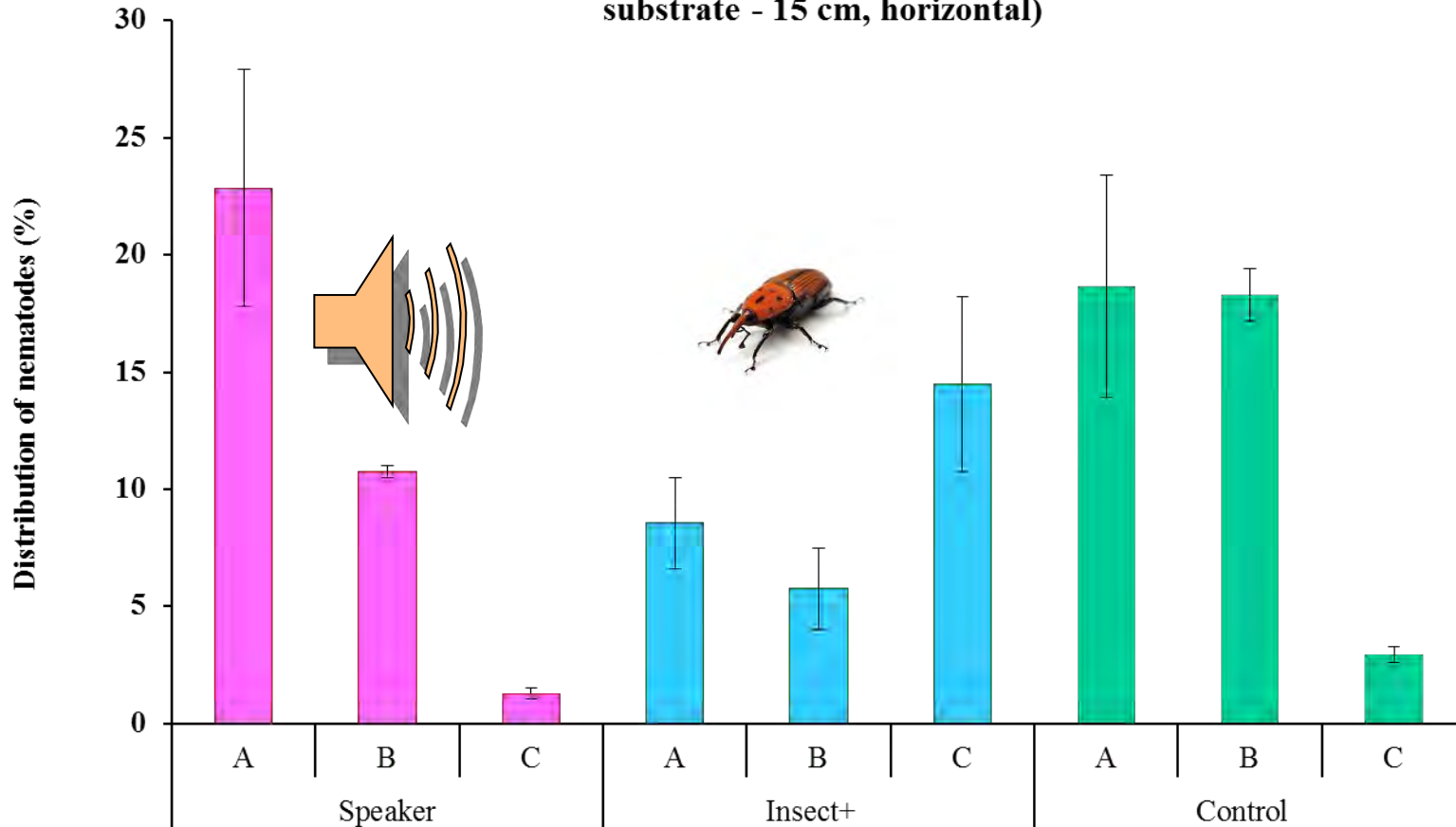


24 h





**Speaker : Migration of Sc-e towards Palm weevil at 25°C in 48 h (In coconut substrate - 15 cm, horizontal)**

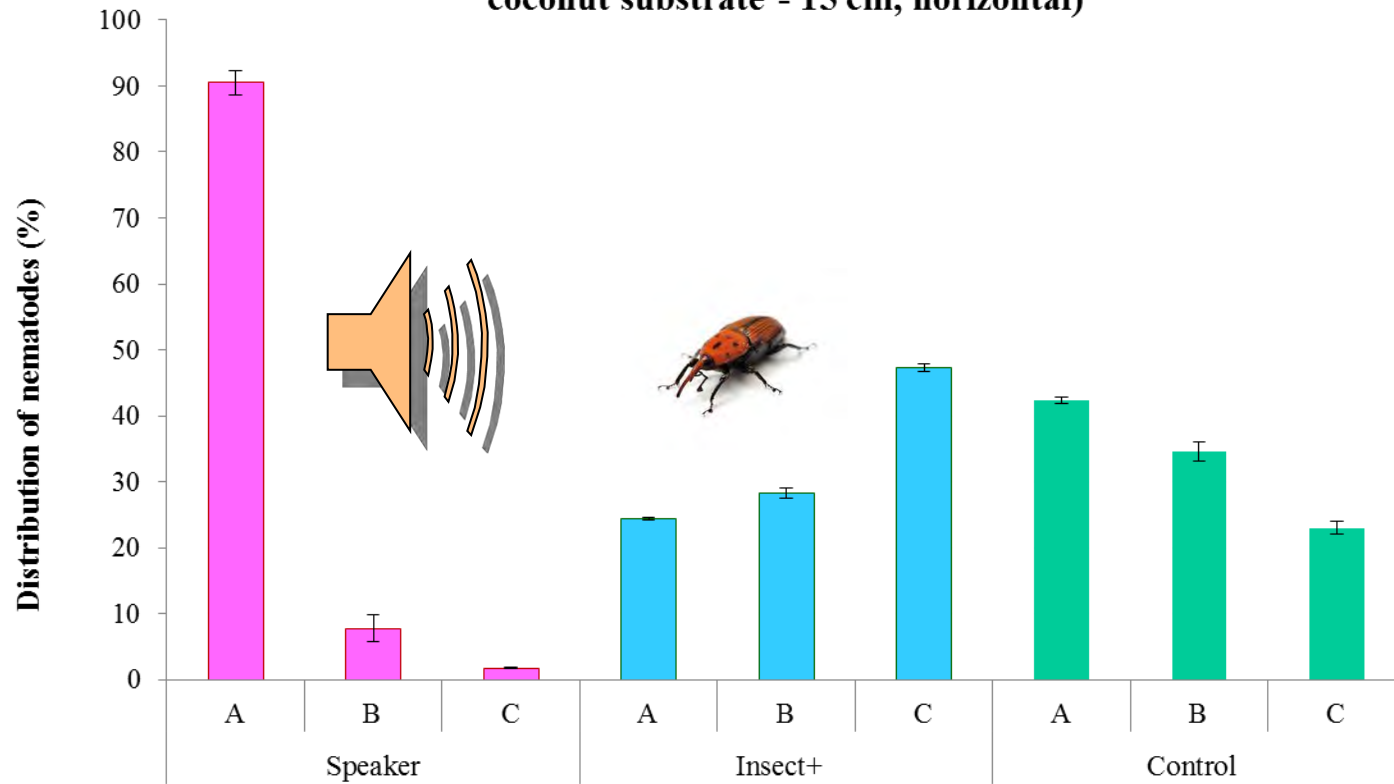


**Nematodes exposed  
to speaker are  
repelled by the  
noise**

**Nematodes exposed  
to insects are  
attracted to it**

**Non-exposed  
nematodes  
distribute arbitrarily**

**Speaker : Migration of Hb-e towards Palm weevil at 25°C in 48 h (In coconut substrate - 15 cm, horizontal)**



**Nematodes exposed to speaker are repelled by the noise**

**Nematodes exposed to insects are attracted to it**

**Non-exposed nematodes distribute arbitrarily**



# Thanks to



*Maladera materida*

ARO- D. Ben-Yakir  
Liora Salame

Growers Org.-  
O. Buchshtev  
Y. Yafe

BioBee-  
S. Steinberg  
Tz. Bar  
A. Alouch



ARO



*Red Palm Weevil*

ARO- V. Soroker  
L. Salame  
S. V. Santhi

BioBee-  
S. Steinberg  
Tz. Bar  
G. Yaakobi



Peanut Growers Org.



*Capnodis tenebionis*

ARO- Z. Mendel  
Liora Salame

Growers Org.-  
H. Reuveni

BioBee-  
S. Steinberg  
Tz. Bar  
A. Alouch



Chief Scientist MOAG



A vibrant field of wildflowers, primarily red and yellow, with green grass interspersed. The flowers are densely packed, creating a colorful mosaic. Overlaid on this background is the text "Thank you for kind attention" in a large, light blue, sans-serif font. The text is centered and spans across the middle of the image.

Thank you  
for kind  
attention