

*Investigating the Efficacy of a Kaolin-based Material as a Deterrent to Feeding by the Brown Marmorated Stinkbug (BMSB) in Bell Pepper*

K. E. Holmstrom  
P.J. Nitzsche  
W.P. Cowgill  
J. Ingerson-Mahar

A plot of ‘Paladin’ bell peppers was established at the Rutgers Snyder Research and Extension Farm on June 1, 2011. The plot contained 5 treatments, as follows:

- 1 Untreated check
- 2 Surround @25 lb/A – 7 day schedule
- 3 Surround @25 lb/A – 14 day schedule
- 4 Brigade (bifenthrin)@ 4 oz./A – 7 day schedule
- 5 Brigade (bifenthrin)@ 4 oz./A – 14 day schedule

All treatments were replicated 4 times in a randomized complete block scheme.

The objective of this study was to determine whether an abrasive kaolin-based spray material (Surround) would limit BMSB presence and feeding injury in bell pepper relative to a conventional insecticide and untreated checks.



Treatments were applied on:	Treatments:	Insect Samples:	Harvest Dates:
7/14 /11	2-5	7/21/11	7/28/11
7/21 /11	2,4	7/27/11	8/10/11
7/28 /11	2-5	8/3/11	8/25/11
8/4 /11	2,4	8/10/11	9/7/11
8/11 /11	2-5	8/17/11	
8/17 /11	2,4	8/24/11	
8/25 /11	2-5	9/1/11	
9/1 /11	2,4		

One BMSB 1<sup>st</sup> instar nymph was found in shake samples on 8/10/11 in treatment 3. No other BMSB adult, nymph or egg mass was found during the course of the study.

No stinkbug injury was evident in fruit samples on any harvest date. The lack of BMSB presence or injury in this study was consistent with the experience of local growers during the 2011 season. This is in direct contrast with the 2010 growing season, when damage was extreme.