

Biological Control

Evaluation of the Potential of *Harmonia axyridis* Pallas (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) for Release Against Apple Aphids in the Pacific Northwest

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*Harmonia axyridis* is a predaceous lady beetle species originating from Asia. It is a known predator of several aphid and scale insect species. It has been released in the US at different sites during the last two decades and is now found to be established to some degree in many states.

*Harmonia axyridis* has potential for release for biological control in orchards for the following reasons:

1. It is an arboreal lady beetle species.
2. It is relatively easily reared on an artificial diet.
3. Its migratory tendency is relatively low.

A colony of *Harmonia axyridis* is kept at WSU-TFREC in Wenatchee to be used for bioassays. The objective of the bioassays is to evaluate the susceptibility of *Harmonia axyridis* to commonly used insecticides in apple orchards of the Pacific Northwest.