THE EFFICACY OF METHYLISOTHIOCYANATE AGAINST *CYDIA POMONELLA* ON APPLE

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The biological efficacy of methylisothiocyanate (MITC) at an applied dose of 20 - 40 $g.m^{-3}$ on all stages of *Sitophilus granarius* has already been shown. Numerous efficacy tests on other stored products pests confirm the interest in this fumigant. The MITC molecule is much more effective than would appear from the cited application doses. This is because of its large capacity for sorption that is detrimental to its diffusion; a problem that must be solved before reduction in dosage can be envisaged.

The subject presented here, deals with the fumigation of apples by MITC, with the objective of satisfying quarantine requirements of certain countries against the Codling moth. The method in practice at present is that of a methyl bromide fumigation followed by a period of cold exposure, for as long as 50 days, to eliminate all egg stages. The aim of this study was to control this stage without the need to immobilise fresh products for long exposure periods. Preliminary tests have shown that MITC is extremely successful in control of the Codling Moth egg stages.