PRESS RELEASE 7 July 2017

IPM of Diamond Back Moth

DiPel DF (Bacillus thuringienis var kurstaki) offers an effective, easy to use solution for the control of damaging caterpillar pests such as Diamond Back Moth and Silver Y moth that are already causing concern again this year in brassicas. "One of the most remarkable things about Dipel DF is the vast array of crops that it can be used on, both conventional and organic. It has label recommendations for outdoor cabbage, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, broccoli, outdoor ornamentals, protected ornamentals, amenity vegetation, strawberries, raspberries, protected tomatoes, protected cucumbers and protected peppers. Even more impressive is the extensive range of Extension of Authorisation for Minor Uses (EAMU's) which add up to over 104 crop situations to date - including salads, alliums, herbs, soft fruit and top fruit. This year DiPel's EAMU has been extended further to include grapes, apricots, plums, kiwi fruit, quince, protected blueberries, chestnuts and hazelnuts," says Dick Dyason, Technical Manager for Nufarm UK Ltd.

With the high incidence of diamond back moth in the UK, DiPel DF offers growers, conventional and organic, the opportunity to use Integrated Pest Management to control this devastating insect pest. This is particularly so as Diamond Back Moth has shown resistance to pyrethroids and diamides (such as chlorantraniliprole). Pyrethroids also reduce the natural population of beneficial biological control insects such as parasitoid wasps, according to the AHDB. DiPel is a biological insecticide that kills all Lepidopterous larvae or caterpillars. It should be applied at a dose rate of 0.75 to 1 kg as soon as the first larvae are seen, during a feeding period.

It stops larvae feeding immediately as the Bt toxin crystals dissolve in the pests midgut where they are activated, attach to the midgut receptors rupturing cells, and death follows. It can be applied up to eight times with a 7 to 10 day interval.

Diamond back moth causes feeding damage in brassicas, of particular concern in cauliflowers, cabbage and broccoli. All these crops have a label recommendation for DiPel DF. Adults lay eggs on the leaves and the caterpillars eat, stripping the leaves. In the UK, there can be 2 or 3 life cycles. Eggs hatch within 3 days of being laid and a complete generation will take around 5 weeks. Both Diamond back moth and Silver Y moth have been seen on brassicas already this year. Most growers have relied on pyrethroids in the past which is why resistance has become a reality in the field, remarks Richard.

“Insecticide use, especially in the fresh produce sector, is under scrutiny from producers, retailers and consumers. As this pest is resistant to many insecticides, having a biological product will certainly help in its control. The market wants high quality food with no insect damage or contamination, no residues and a good environmental profile. The development of insecticides based on Bacillus thuringienis var kurstaki, such as Dipel DF, fit the bill with a highly targeted insecticidal activity and a favourable toxicological, environmental and residue profiles. Dipel DF has a high number of applications, a very short harvest interval, no LERAP and is now fully recognised for use in organic production as well as conventional horticulture. Dipel is an important product to fruit, salad and vegetable growers, especially to those in the organic sector who have had to struggle with pest problems and quality issues over the years.”

END

Word Count 560

1) Richard Dyason, Technical Manager UK and Ireland, Nufarm 07766113373 (mobile) or 1425 653150 or email richard.dyason@uk.nufarm.com
2) Jo Palmer of Prime Contact Communications on 01760 724469 or email jo.palmer@farmline.com

Use plant protection products safely. Always read the label and product information before use. DiPel DF contains Bacillus thuringienis var kurstaki. Dipel DF is a registered trade mark of Valent BioSciences® Corporation, part of Sumitomo Chemicals Company).

Nufarm UK Limited | Wyke Lane, Wyke, Bradford, BD12 9EJ UK
Tel 01274 691234. Web site http://www.nufarm.com/