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COLORADO BEETLE IN WESTERN FOREST-STEPPE OF UKRAINE

Among the most dangerous pests of potatoes is the Colorado potato beetle, the number of which depends largely on meteorological conditions under which the pest overwinters and develops. The climate of the western region of Ukraine is very favorable for the development of the beetle, because number as wintering so and summer generations of the pest on potatoes is constantly high.

Colorado potato beetle has adapted to the current climate, it is not terrible either extreme cold or sweltering heat. Pest is a full cycle of development: egg – larva – pupa – imago.

Period bugs out of hibernation places, lay their eggs and larvae revival protracted in time and causes long harmfulness of Colorado potato beetle and difficult fight with him. During the warm weather in spring the basic mass of beetle leaves the wintering place for two weeks, flying over long distances in search of food.

Colorado potato beetle out on the soil surface depended on the conditions under which wintered beetle and weather conditions of the spring period. In 2013 after overwintering pest output was observed in the third week of April, in 2014 – in the second decade of April, in 2015 – in early April.

Most quantity of pest for period 2013-2015 was observed on varieties of Vinetta, Bellarozza, Mavka, Obriy, Sante, Dara, Zabava (3-4 ind./plant), and least – on the varieties of Shchedryk, Anosta, Bylyna, Hirska, Ol'via, Taifun (1-2 ind./plant).

The second generation of Colorado potato beetle in the years were less numerous, at level or below ETH. In 2013 the number of larvae was 7-15 ind./plant, in 2014 – 7-18 ind./plant, in 2015 – 5-20 ind./plant, its population peak occurred in the second half of July and phase coincided with the formation of bulbs (middle-ripening varieties) and to beginning of the natural dying off of potato tops (early-ripening varieties). The least quantity of larvae of the second generation was on varieties Shchedryk, Anosta, Hirska, Chervona ruta, Ol'via, the quantity of that did not exceeded of ETH.

Effective in limiting the number and harmfulness of Colorado potato beetle is the use of biological agents that are safe for environment. Technical efficiency of biological drug Aktovit, KE (0,4 l/ha) against Colorado beetle on potato was 92,0–88,5 %.