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W. Wakil, J. Romeno Faleiro, Th.A. Miller (Eds.)

Sustainable Pest Management in Date Palm: Current Status and Emerging Challenges

Series: Sustainability in Plant and Crop Protection

- ▶ **Albeit individual reviews, book chapters etc. on the pest complex and management of date palm are available, but there is no book on the biology and management of insect pests of date palm**
- ▶ **118 illustrations on the biology and management of insect and mite pests of date palm including the high quality color plates**
- ▶ **Renowned experts in the field of date palm IPM worldwide contributed chapters in the book**
- ▶ **The book will be the standard peer-reviewed reference for the economically important insect and mite pests associated with date palm**

Date palm, *Phoenix dactylifera* L. (Arecales: Arecaceae), is an important palm species cultivated since pre-historic times in the arid regions of the world and traditionally associated with the life and culture of the people in the Middle-East and North Africa which are the pre-dominant date palm growing regions worldwide. The crop is currently cultivated in nearly 30 countries in the Asian, African, American and Australasian continents. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN estimates that there are over 100 million date palms world wide with an annual production of over 7.5 million tonnes

Date palm is attacked by a wide range of insect pests mainly from the orders Coleoptera, Lepidoptera and Hemiptera besides phytophagous mites, several of which cause substantial loss in yield and even mortality of palms. During the last two decades there has been a significant increase in date palm cultivation worldwide especially in the Middle-East and North Africa where the area has increased over 50%, mostly in vast stretches of monoculture plantations offering a conducive macro and micro ha

bitat for existing and emerging insect pests of date palm. Global warming together with rapid large scale movement of palm species for farming and ornamental gardening has compounded the threat of insect pests to date palm.



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