

**Title** Effectiveness of a multi-species attractant in two different trap types under practical grain storage conditions

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### Abstract

Commodities may be attacked by a multitude of pest species simultaneously and so to be cost-effective any lure must be attractive to a range of target species. The objective of this study was to test a multi-species lure formulation with different dispensers under conditions as close as possible to their use in practice. The attractant effect of the multi-species lure formulation was tested using two types of dispensers with populations of the three principal grain beetle pests in the UK (*Oryzaephilus surinamensis*, *Sitophilus granarius* and *Cryptolestes ferrugineus*). The trials were performed over a period of six weeks with the lures tested in PC<sup>TM</sup> Traps: first in a grain bulk and in six grain bins and second in the surrounding area using PC<sup>TM</sup> Floor Traps. The amounts of volatiles released in and around *in situ* traps were measured using Solid-Phase Microextraction (SPME).

The first lure dispenser tested was attractive to *O. surinamensis* and *C. ferrugineus* but it attracted fewer *S. granarius* than the control traps. It was shown that most of the volatiles were released at the beginning of the trial and therefore lures were not effective over the whole six-week period. The second lure dispenser released the attractant volatiles more consistently over six weeks and exerted significant attraction to *O. surinamensis* and *C. ferrugineus* in PC<sup>TM</sup> Traps in the grain bulk and to *O. surinamensis* and *S. granarius* in floor traps. Too few *C. ferrugineus* were caught in floor traps to make a comparison. The reason for the repellent effect on *S. granarius* in the grain bulk was unclear and this is discussed along with the importance of measuring volatiles released by the lure.