Title Combinations to enhance the efficacy of diatomaceous earth against the larger grain borer,

Prostephanus truncatus (Horn).

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## **Abstract**

Combinations of Protect-It (diatomaceous earth; DE) with low levels of pyrethroids, plant extracts or soil bacteria metabolites were evaluated against *P. truncatus* on maize. Deltamethrin and permethrin exhibited a high knockdown effect and prevented progeny emergence of *P. truncatus* at 0.025 and 2.00 mg/kg, respectively. No further effects from the addition of Protect-It (500, 1000 or 2500 ppm) were observed. The combinations of DE and plant extracts or soil bacteria metabolites, formulated as "All Natural" and "Spindeba", also prevented progeny emergence of *P. truncatus* at 50-100 ppm. The results are discussed in the context of improving the efficacy of DE against *P. truncatus* for use by small-scale producers in developing countries.