

Title Use of diatomaceous earth for insect control in paddy rice stored in silos.
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Abstract

The efficacy of diatomaceous earth (DE) against the insect pests of stored rice was evaluated in a rice storage facility in Massaranduba, Santa Catarina, Brazil. Rice stored in four 1875-t silos were treated with diatomaceous earth (DE) at 1000 g/t applied to the grain as powder, or with pirimiphos-methyl at 12 ml/t sprayed on the conveyor belt. The treatments were evaluated every 15 days for 5 months based on insect captures with probe traps. The results were not very consistent and varying numbers of insects were captured in all silos, noticeably when new lots of rice were being received, and probably due to cross infestation from the field. The rusty grain beetle, *Cryptolestes ferrugineus* was the most common species captured in the traps.