

# PHEROMONE FOR THE CONTROL OF SWEETPOTATO WEEVIL

## What is a Pheromone?

Pheromone is a chemical released by an organism to communicate with other individuals of the same species. This principle can be utilized for the management of crop pests.

## Uses of Sex Pheromone in Sweetpotato Weevil Control

1. Monitoring of weevil population in the field
2. Reduce weevil population by luring adults into trapping or killing device
3. Mating disruption

## Advantages of using Pheromone in Pest Control

1. **Environmentally friendly** – pheromone is biodegradable and dispensed in very minute amount
2. **No health risk to user** – pheromone is not toxic
3. **No health risk to consumer** – no direct contact to agricultural products
4. **Compatible with other control measures**

## HOW IT WORKS

1  
SPW Pheromone Pack



### What's inside?



Female sex pheromone is impregnated in a polypropylene tube

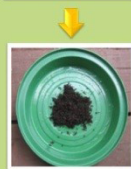
### Trap set-up



- ❖ Sides of the traps made of plastic bottles or containers are cut and removed to facilitate diffusion of pheromone in the air and entrance of insects
- ❖ Fill the trap with detergent water 1-2 inches from the base
- ❖ Suspend tube in the trap just above the water receptacle



- ❖ Sex pheromone attracts only the male weevils
- ❖ Set traps at 1 trap per 200-400 sq. m area
- ❖ Transfer traps to another area every other day



- ❖ Trapped weevils are collected and disposed periodically
- ❖ Putrid water should be replaced with fresh ones
- ❖ Set up traps one week after planting and mass trapping continues until crop harvest
- ❖ Pheromone lasts for 2-3 months

For more information, contact:

**Dr. Erlinda A. Vasquez**

PhilRootcrops

Visayas State University, Baybay, Leyte 6521-A

Tel: (053) 3352616



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation