

SpodKil™ for your Pest Problem

Award Winner



The heavy use of chemical pesticides has already caused grave damage to health, ecosystems and ground water. Biopesticides, the use of microorganisms through inundative or inoculative release for biological control of insect pests have been proposed and implemented many years for promoting sustainable agriculture. They can reduce pesticide risks, in general, less harmful than chemicals, highly selective for a very narrow range of target pests, and often effective in small quantities. Biopesticides are expected to be a substantial component in pesticide usage in Malaysia in future.

SpodKil™ is developed in our laboratory based on a naturally isolated baculovirus, the *Nucleopolyhedrovirus* (NPV), which have the potential to be used as biopesticide on a large scale for the control of *Spodoptera litura*, one of the serious pests of crucifers and other crops. SpodKil™ is produced in the form of concentrated wettable powder by cold grinding of freeze-dried viral substrate. Ultra violet protectants as well as surfactants are also added to the virus formulation to prevent inactivation by UV radiation and to provide a good residual activity on the target when used as spray after dilution with an inert carrier. Field trial studies using SpodKil™ on *Brassica rapae* (sawi) showed significant control on *Spodoptera litura*. All SpodKil™ treated plots produced higher yield as compared with that of insecticide treated plot. SpodKil™ alone treated plot produced 23% higher yield than insecticide treated plots.



Field Trials using SpodKil™ on *Brassica rapa* (choy sam)

SpodKil™ has the potential to be used on a commercial scale as biopesticide that will provide a cleaner environment, is ecofriendly and can be used for the production of organic vegetables with the usage of non-chemical method for controlling pests in the open and protected environment. It is ideal for the integration into the pest management system (IPM).

For further information, kindly contact:

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