



**College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences  
 Department of Entomology  
 Thrips as Vectors in Agricultural Commodities Lab**

The following report includes data obtained during the period January 3 – January 25 from Brooks, Colquitt, Decatur, and Tift Counties. Two fields were sampled in each of the 4 counties. Five of the 6 target weeds were collected in one or more counties and included cudweed, sowthistle, Carolina geranium, Virginia pepperweed, and wild radish. Thrips were extracted from the weeds using Berlese funnels, and the total number of thrips per county ranged from 5 to 29. ELISA was performed on 156 weed samples with 3.8% indicating positive for tomato spotted wilt virus.

County and Field	Number of weed samples collected	Percent TSWV in weed samples	Total number of thrips collected	Number of <i>F. fusca</i>	Number of <i>F. occidentalis</i>
<b>Brooks L1</b>	18	16.7 %	7	0	0
<b>Brooks L2</b>	18	0 %	4	0	0
<b>Colquitt L1</b>	18	0 %	12	0	0
<b>Colquitt L2</b>	18	0 %	13	0	2
<b>Decatur L1</b>	21	0 %	2	0	0
<b>Decatur L2</b>	18	6 %	3	0	0
<b>Tift L1</b>	18	0 %	24	4	0
<b>Tift L2</b>	18	11 %	5	0	2

\* Based on previous research, incidence of TSWV in more than 2% of weeds results in a high incidence year for the crop. Also worth noting, vectors were collected in Tift County fields where TSWV was high.

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