



**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 March 14 – March 29 from Brooks, Colquitt, Decatur, and Tift Counties. Two fields were sampled in each of the 4 counties. Four of the 6 target weeds were collected in one or more counties and included cudweed, chickweed, sowthistle, and Carolina geranium. Thrips were extracted from the weeds using Berlese funnels, and the total number of thrips per county ranged from 4 to 204. ELISA was performed on 170 weed samples with 4.7% 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>
Brooks L1	18	5.6	26	3	0
Brooks L2	18	5.6	39	1	0
Colquitt L1	27	18.5	8	2	0
Colquitt L2	21	0	12	0	0
Decatur L1	18	0	4	0	0
Decatur L2	18	0	0	0	0
Tift L1	24	4.2	154	2	2
Tift L2	26	0	50	1	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, a few vectors were collected in Tift County fields where TSWV was high.

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