

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR ICHNEUMON FLIES OF THE SPECIES TRICHOGRAMMA EVANESCENS FOR COMBATTING OF CLOTHES MOTHS

### **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

For the trichogramma to be effective, the cardboards must be placed near by the textiles that are or possibly could be infested with moths. Thereby it is to be noted that the moths do not infest any synthetic fabrics. They only nest in textiles that are made of animal fur (such as fibers from wool, fur or felt). If possible, place the cards directly on or next to these kind of textiles.

#### APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL TEXTILES

For clothing the small cardboards should be placed on or right next to the pile of clothes in your wardrobe. One cardboard is efficient for round about one meter of shelf length. Should you have a wardrobe with five shelves of one meter length each, you would have to place five cardboards at the same time.

Clothes: For clothes that are on hangers you can either place the cardboards over the hanger itself or attach them onto the garment.

Furniture: Only textile parts of furniture will be infested that are made of animal fur. In most cases, this is the filling. Therefore place the cardboards directly between the upholstery and the cover

Carpets: Mostly the edges of carpets are infested. Therefore, lift the carpet slightly and push the cardboards underneath.

# PERIOD OF APPLICATION

The ichneumon flies of the species trichogramma evanescens hatch within about three weeks and crawl out of the slots on the side of the cardboards. They immediately start their hunt for moth eggs in the close proximity. The cardboards should be replaced against new ones after three weeks. The period of application altogether is nine weeks - just as long as the moth's life cycle.

# Storage

Trichogramma are living insects. They cannot be stored for a long period of time. Therefore the cardboards must be used immediately. Should you not be able to place the cardboards right away, you can keep them in the vegetable compartment of your fridge at 8 -  $10\,^{\circ}$ C for max. 24 hours.



## **Precautions**

Keep the cardboards closed and take care that they are not damaged and no pressure is put on them! The trichogramma could escape before the cardboards are placed at their place of action.

Never use insecticides in your house or garden during the period of application! Otherwise the trichogramma evanescens will be killed.

It is not necessary to "feed" the trichogramma! They only feed on moth eggs. That is why they are the perfect biological protection against moths.