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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **CITRIPAR: NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT AGAINST CITRUS AND VINE MEALYBUG**

Mealybugs are a growing problem with a worldwide distribution in many crops such as citrus, grapes and ornamentals. Starting in May, growers will have a new product available from Koppert called Citripar. Citripar contains mummies of the parasitic wasp *Anagyrus pseudococci* which parasitizes the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> instar larvae of the citrus mealybug, *Planococcus citri* and the vine mealybug, *Planococcus ficus*.

#### **Grape and citrus orchards**

Citripar can play a major role in controlling mealybug in grape and citrus orchards.

Several research projects with *Anagyrus pseudococci* showed that damage on fruit can be controlled with the introduction of this parasitic wasp. *Anagyrus pseudococci* reproduces and establishes successfully in the field. Citripar can also complement the product Planopar (*Coccidoxenoides perminutus*), which parasitizes the first 2 stages.



#### **Innovative**

Citripar has innovative packaging. It is especially designed to prevent ants from penetrating inside and yet enabling the parasitic wasps to emerge unhindered. In addition, Citripar is supplied as mummies, which enables the product to reach its destination everywhere in the world when it is 'fresh', without adult mortality and with enhanced performance.

#### **Why Integrated Pest Management?**

Mealybugs often hide deep in the crop. The eggs and the youngest larvae are protected in an egg sac. This makes them difficult to reach when spraying with a pesticide. The older larvae and adult mealybugs have a white protective layer of wax around their bodies, impeding penetration by insecticides. Parasitic wasps, however, actively search for their prey.

*Use of the product mentioned in this press release may be subject to regulatory approval and/or restricted by law as to country/state and crop.*

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