Attractivity of 11-tetradecenyl acetate isomers for Archips podana Scopoli and Aphelia paleana (Hübner)

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In the present study the optimum ratio of Z11-14:Ac and E11-14:Ac in sex attractants for Archips podana Scopoli (Lepidoptera, Tortricidae) and Aphelia paleana Hübner (Lepidoptera Tortricidae) is estimated using results of field tests, and the pheromone communication channel width is calculated for Pandemis chondrillana (Lepidoptera Tortricidae) and Adoxophyes orana Hübner (Lepidoptera, Tortricidae). The Gaussian distribution is used to calculate the optimal Z-isomer content x_{max} and the pheromone communication channel width w. For Archips podana $x_{max} = 60 \%$ of Z11-14:Ac; w =15.7; for Aphelia paleana $x_{max} = 89\%$ of Z11-14:Ac; w = 9.6 and for Pandemis chondrillana x_{max} = 60 % of Z11-14:Ac; w = 22.3. The activity curves for A. podana and A. paleana overlap in the region where the content of Z11-14: Ac is 70 -90 %, but the difference in optimal content of Z11-.14:Ac for A. podana and A. paleana is 28%. It confirms that the reproductive isolation of these moths may be based on different attractive maxima as both maxima are outside of the overlapping region. 60:40 mixture of Z11-14:Ac and E11-14:Ac had the highest attractivity for Pandemis chondrillana and this blend is the most attractive for A. podana. Both species share the same population area and their reproductive isolation is probably based on additional pheromone components. Instead of having a clear attractivity maximum, an area of equal activity is ascertained for P. chondrillana that indicates that the optimised mixture of Z11-14:Ac and E11-14:Ac can not be used as a real sex pheromone. However, for many monitoring purposes a low attractivity blend attracting up to 10-12 species is preferable. The intersection of activity curves allows to optimise the attractant blends enabling us to monitor groups of moths. A dispenser for monitoring three known species, A. podana, A. paleana and P. chondrillana, will contain 80% of Z11-14: Ac and 20% of E11-14:Ac.

Key word: 11-tetradecenyl acetate, sex attractant, pheromone communication channel, pheromone dispenser, Tortricidae

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