

Systemic Applications of Neem in the Control of *Cameraria ohridella*, a Pest of Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)

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Systemic injection of neem (azadirachtin) was tested in the control of horse chestnut leafminer, *Cameraria ohridella* Deschka & Dimic (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae), a pest of horse chestnut trees (*Aesculus hippocastanum* L.: Hippocastanaceae). Three concentrations, 0.08, 0.15 and 0.25 g of active ingredient (a.i.) per cm of diameter at breast height (dbh), provided long-lasting insecticidal activity. The 0.15 and 0.25 g a.i. concentrations resulted in 100% pupae reduction in all generations; the 0.08 g a.i. concentration was effective against the horse chestnut leafminer for at least 23 weeks and led to 70–80% pupae reduction. Treated trees did not lose their leaves before winter. Neem application *via* injection is cheap, with no environmental hazards, and thus this treatment is recommended for the control of *C. ohridella* in horse chestnut trees.

KEY WORDS: NeemAzal; azadirachtin; botanical insecticides; pest management; ornamental plants; leafminer.

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