

## HOST PLANTS OF *BEMISIA TABACI* (GENN.), IN PANAMA

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Currently more than 500 *Bemisia tabaci* host plants have been reported, aggravating pest management, considering that it is a virus vector (Begomovirus), samples has been collected in agricultural crops, ornamental plants, bushes and shrubs during weekly intervals for a year in different locations, Tres Quebradas, La Espigadilla, Parita and Chitre; in Panama. The sampling performed weekly for a year period, considered the presence of 3<sup>o</sup> ninphal stage in *B. tabaci*, in order to be registered as a host. In each host considered plant, 15 leaves were collected, establishing as a collection pattern 5 leaves in each level (superior, medium and inferior). The identification of ninphal phase was performed through the "vasiform orifice" morphology. The results were analyzed by collection location and by host family plant. The results obtained indicate that the locations of La Espigadilla, Tres Quebradas, presented higher levels of infested plants with *B. tabaci*. The families that presented higher levels of infestation were: Sterculiaceae (23.5%), Solanaceaea (23%), Cucurbitaceae (15%), Malvaceae (6%) and Euphorbiaceae (27%), among others.

Financial support: Instituto de Investigación Agropecuaria de Panamá (IDIAP), Panama, Panama