ATTRACTIVENESS AND NON-PREFERENCE FOR OVIPOSITION OF *BEMISIA TABACI* (GENN.) BIOTYPE B (HEMIPTERA: ALEYRODIDAE) IN SQUASH GENOTYPES

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The management of *Bemisia tabaci* biotype B has become a challenge for farmers, since it has a high ability to develop resistance to all classes of insecticides. An alternative is the use of resistant plants as a management practice. The objective of this study was to evaluate 20 genotypes of squash (*Cucurbita* spp.) regarding the attractiveness and non-preference for oviposition of *B. tabaci* biotype B, in a free choice greenhouse experiment. A randomized block design with 20 treatments (genotypes) and 10 repetitions was used, totaling 200 plots. Each plot consisted of one pot containing two squash plants about 18 days old. Under free choice conditions, the pots containing squash genotypes were distributed randomly in a circle inside net cages (2.0 x 2.0 x 2.5 m). A ratio of 50 whitefly couples per pot was release from a bottle placed on the ground, in the center of the cages. The attractiveness was assessed 24 and 48 h after release, by counting the number of adults present on the abaxial surface of two leaves per plot, one from each plant belonging to the plot. After the final count, two leaves from each plot were sampled for leaf area measurements, in order to estimate the number of adultos/cm2, and counting the number of eggs on the abaxial surface. Genotypes 'Alicia AF-9354', 'Aline AF-9353' and 'Golden Delight' were the most attractive to adults of *B. tabaci* biotype B after 24 and 48 h of infestation. 'Sandy' and 'Daiane' showed low attractiveness to whitefly adults in both periods. 'Formosa' and 'Itapuã 301' express resistance of the non-preference type for oviposition. Genotype New Caravela proved to be the most susceptible.

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