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## Avocado—Avocado Thrips Density Sampling

### Supplement to UC IPM Pest Management Guidelines: Avocado

Grower: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Monitor every 7 to 10 days, beginning as early as April, look for both mites and thrips. Begin regular monitoring before young fruit are present and continue monitoring through fruit set until most fruit are at least 3/4 inch in diameter.

- Look for thrips on 10 young leaves on each of at least 10 trees per grove.
  - Inspect only tender foliage on new shoots.
  - Avoid sampling fully hardened, dark green leaves.
  - Avoid sampling leaves that touch and avoid leaves very close to flowers and fruit.
- Distinguish avocado thrips from greenhouse thrips. Identify thrips that are not pests in avocado and beneficial predatory thrips.
- Total the number of avocado thrips per tree; sum these totals to get the total number of thrips on all leaves. Then calculate the average number of thrips per leaf (Total avocado thrips / Total number of leaves sampled—for example 100 leaves = Average avocado thrips per leaf).

Tree	Number of avocado thrips on each of 10 young leaves per tree <sup>1</sup>										Total thrips per tree <sup>1</sup>
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											
<b>Total thrips on all leaves:</b>											
<b>Average thrips per leaf:</b>											

1. This form can be simplified by combining columns numbered 1 to 10 into a single column titled: "Total thrips on 10 leaves per tree." Use a hand-click counter, tally meter, or some other recording method and begin a new tally after sampling each tree to avoid losing count.