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Thrips and Their Control

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A species of Thrips (Heliothrips haemorrhoidalis, Bouche) is becoming increasingly troublesome along the coast. It attacks Mexican varieties chiefly, but this year has done considerable damage to Pueblas, Fuertes and even some Guatemalan varieties.

This avocado thrips is comparatively easy to control with lime-sulphur spray, or any good light oil spray. Several applications may be needed for a clean up. I have noticed that this thrips is very common on Strawberry guava, Arbutus unedo, Hypericum moserianum, and some other ornamental shrubs. Wherever avocados are grown near ornamental shrubbery and are troubled with thrips, it is necessary to include all such infested shrubbery in the spraying program.