

**EVALUATION OF SCARLET MITE (*BREVIPALPAS CALIFORNICUS*)
POPULATIONS IN TEA FIELDS**

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The evaluation of scarlet mite populations in tea fields requires background information such as the number of bushes that should be sampled to obtain an accurate estimate of the mean. The precision of the mean, yielded by an experiment can be expressed in terms of the variance of the sample mean, which will be a linear function of the variance corresponding to each level with coefficients involving reciprocals of the units in the various levels. The variance components thus estimated, between bushes and leaves, together with the cost of sampling, that were used to determine the optimum sample size of one random leaf per bush in approximately 28 random bushes, is described.