

Harmonia???

David Cary, Executive Director, IBMA, February 2015





What is Harmonia issue?

Historical biocontrol uses in USA & Europe in biocontrol
& with
ecological
implications

Ecological Impact IBMA Position



Historical Uses of Harmonia in biocontrol

Numerous classical biocontrol releases in USA in 20th century Glasshouse and garden uses in continental Europe since 1990s

No biocontrol use in UK



Strains of Harmonia?

Biocontrol Strain

- Standard Variant
- Flightless variant



Swarming Strain

Similar to USA strain



Ecological impact

No evidence of decline of native ladybird species

No evidence of aphid species population change

No evidence of hybridisation between biocontrol and swarming strains

Evidence demonstrating decline / stabilisation in swarming population



IBMA Position

At the time

• Took a precautionary position in 2010

Now

- Under risk assessment procedures now in place would Harmonia be introduced?
- No because:
 - Overwintering in Northern countries
 - General v Selective predators



Is Harmonia really an issue?

Maturity of industry has increased



Risk assessments are performed as a standard requirement in macrobial development





Thank you for your attention

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