

Summary of Conclusions

- SIRATAC action thresholds used in pest management are not economic thresholds.
- Economic thresholds can be defined for *Heliothis* on cotton using the crop and *Heliothis* models developed under the SIRATAC programme.
- The main problems with defining economic thresholds in this way are uncertainties to do with:-
 - (1) the ability of the cotton crop to compensate for early season insect damage
 - (2) the valuation of earliness
 - (3) the justification for incorporating considerations other than private costs and benefits into the definition of the thresholds.
- The prototype of entomoLOGIC demonstrated that a pest management decision support system can be developed without the use of simulation models.
- The development of entomoLOGIC is already constrained by the conventions of historical SIRATAC to do with:-
 - (1) the limited size of the rule base, especially the problem of how to manage combinations of pest species
 - (2) the definition of action thresholds.
- An analysis of the Resistance Management Strategy suggested that the economic benefit of that project was substantial and social factors were important to its success.