

# Carrot

## Pests

### **Carrot Rust Fly** (*Psila rosae*):

It is one of the most common pests damaging the roots of carrot. The larvae mine in the roots, causing holes that are subject to rot by secondary organisms. Heavy maggot feeding is indicated by drooping, discolored foliage. If the roots are severely injured the leaves become rusty brown or even dry.

**Control:** Cultural methods such as deep plowing, rotation of crops, and destruction of wild hosts help to check the pest population. Soil application of Carbofuran at a depth of 10-15 cm effectively controls the pest.

### **Thrips** (*Thrips tabaci*):

Adults and larvae suck the cell sap from the leaves of the plants. White blotches appear on leaves. Tips of leaves wither and turn brown.

**Control:** Alternate spraying of insecticides like Phosphamidon (0.05%) or Monocrotophos (0.1%) or Malathion (0.05%) offer a good control over the pest. Prophylactic sprays immediately after flowering is essential.

### **Nematode** (*Partylenchus sp.*, *Heterodera carotae*, *Meloidogyne sp.*):

Nematodes can cause serious problems in carrots and result in substantial yield losses. Nematodes can cause roots to become forked and therefore unmarketable.

**Control:** Soil treatment with Nemagon is effective in reducing the nematode population.