

## **Abstract**

The spatial distribution of the immature stages of *Bemisia tabaci* is determined by their immobility - the last developmental instar is found only on older leaves - and by the habits of the ovipositing female. Young leaves are preferred as oviposition site but some eggs are laid even on very old leaves. The influence of leaf size, trichomes and infestation with spider mites on the distribution of eggs is discussed. Leaf age is a major source of variance of population density and ought to be considered in all sampling procedures