

Tekst 9



A real pest

- 1 The Fire Service is coping with many false alarms caused by thunderflies, which have been thriving in the warm, humid weather. The tiny insects, called thrips, attack crops and plants—and trigger alarms when they crawl into smoke detectors.
- 2 Paul Clarke, of the Cambridgeshire service, said that thrips alarms were a huge waste of resources. “We have already seen a fourfold increase on last month’s figures for false callouts caused by thrips,” he said. “Smoke detectors mistake the insects for smoke particles. Every fire and rescue service, particularly rural brigades, will be seeing a marked increase in thrips-related false alarms. Thrips are 39 the Fire Service.”
- 3 The advice is not to spray insecticide near detectors as it could trigger the alarm or damage sensors. Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service has suggested diminishing the plague by putting flea collars around smoke detectors. Mr Clarke said: “It sounds quirky but it is one of those strange ideas that can really make a difference.”

The Times, 2009

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- 1p 39 Which of the following fits the gap in paragraph 2?
- A a massive burden for
 - B a simple prey for
 - C a source of income for
 - D a speciality of
- 1p 40 How does Mr Clarke comment on the solution to the thrips problem in paragraph 3?
- A At present it is the most affordable method available.
 - B It may be effective although you would not think so at first.
 - C It will probably increase the number of false alarms.
 - D There are better and easier ways of tackling the problem.
 - E Using large quantities of pesticides could be risky for humans.