Thrips on Mango

Recognize the problem
The adult thrip is an insect which is dark brown to black and just over 1 mm long. The nymphs (young thrips) are cream yellow with two bright red bands around their body. The nymphs and the adult feed by rubbing and sucking the sap from the surface, dropping faeces onto the surface and leaving a dark rusty stain. They also feed on young fruits leaving permanent, rough, greyish, scars which makes the fruits unmarketable on maturity.

Background
Thrips can survive on many different plants. They can also be eaten or killed by predatory mites and some bugs. The adults can be carried long distances by wind.

Management
Non-chemical control
- Conserve natural enemies. Predatory thrips and mites, flower bugs, and other natural enemies are important in control of thrips.

Chemical control
- If spraying is practical in your orchard, insecticides that can be used include Abamectin, Azadirachtin, Deltamethrin, Lambda-cyhalothrin and Lufenuron.

Scientific name(s) > Selenothrips rubrocinctus; Scirtothrips aurantii

When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, and pre-harvest interval.