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Comparative efficacy and phytotoxicity evaluation of biopesticides, insecticides and *Neem* formulation against leaf folder (Cnaphlocrocis medinalis guenee) on paddy

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ABSTRACT

Effort were taken to compare the efficacy and phytotoxicity of bioagent *B.bassiana* *Neem* formulation and insecticide. Out of six treatment Monocrotophos 36 per cent SL @ 625 ml/ha and *Beauveria bassiana* 1.15 per cent WP ($1x10^8$ cfu/g min.) treatments @ 3000 and 2500 g/ha were effective to reducing leaf folder larval population on paddy crop and to increase the grain yield. All the treatments were non-phytotoxic to paddy crop and non-toxic to natural enemies in both the year. *Beauveria bassiana* 1.15 per cent WP applied @ 2500 g/ha dose was optimum to control leaf folder and to increase the yield. Based on the results of bioefficacy and grain yield, use of *Beauveria bassiana* 1.15 per cent WP @ 2500 g/ha is suggested for the effective management of leaf folder larvae on paddy crop.

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