

Toxicity of Neem Based Pesticide Against Diamond Back Moth, *Plutella xylostella* Linn.

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International Journal of Plant Protection, Vol. 2 No. 1 : 48-49 (April to September, 2009)

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SUMMARY

Investigation were carried out to study the toxicity of neem based pesticide, 'Bioneem' against 3rd instar larvae of diamond back moth, *Plutella xylostella* by bio-assay (film technique) method and the mortality was recorded for different concentrations (0.50 to 4.00%) and result indicated that maximum mortality was observed at higher dose (4.00%) while minimum at lower dose (0.50%).

The diamond back moth, *Plutella xylostella* Linn. is a phytophagous crop pest and infests cabbage, cauliflower, radish, mustard, turnip etc. and several botanical pesticides have been tested by different workers (Jat *et al.*, 2006; Lowery and Isman, 1995). But no information is on record as regards the efficacy of neem based pesticide against this important pest. In view of this the present study was undertaken to determine the toxicity of Bioneem against *Plutella xylostella* Linn. infesting the cole crop cabbage.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was carried out with neem based pesticide, Bioneem to find out its toxicity against the larvae of *Plutella xylostella* Linn. Third instar larvae were used in the investigation, obtained from a laboratory culture maintained on cabbage.

Different concentrations of neem based pesticide, 'Bioneem' was prepared by adding desired quantity of distilled water. Stock solution of 10% was prepared for each experimental compound. The desired concentration of neem based pesticide was prepared from the stock solution by diluting with desired amount of distilled water.

After conducting preliminary trial to find out the concentrations resulting 20-80 per cent mortality of experimental insects, bioassay test by film method was done to work out the LC₅₀ value. For the preparation of insecticidal films, both lids of Petridishes (10 cm. diameter) were sprayed with 1ml. each concentration of the

neem based pesticide under the Potter's tower at the constant pressure. Five concentrations in each Petridish along with the control were tried and each treatment was replicated thrice. The sprayed Petridishes were gently shaken under an electric fan for about 10-15 minutes till the liquid lids was evaporated leaving behind a uniform dry film of the pesticide on glass surface.

There after, twenty 3rd instar larvae starved for 6 hrs. were exposed to insecticidal film of the pesticide for 2 hrs. and then transferred into clean Petridishes containing the fresh tender leaves of cabbage for feeding 24 hrs. after the treatment, the mortality was recorded.

The corrected mortality percentage was calculated from the observed mortality values by the following formula as given below:

$$\text{Corrected per cent mortality} = \frac{T - C}{100 - C} \times 100$$

where,

T = Observed mortality

C = Mortality in control

The mortality data obtained were subjected to probit analysis for determination of their LC₅₀ values. The LC₅₀ and LC₉₀ values of 'Bioneem' pesticide by taking it as unity so as to work out the toxicity of neem based pesticide used in present study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Toxic effect of 'Bioneem' was calculated on the basis of probit value (Table 1 and Fig. 1). Statistical analysis of the toxicity evaluation

Key words :

Bioassay, Neem based pesticide 'Bioneem', *Plutella xylostella* Linn.

Accepted :
January, 2009