

Effect of insecticides in management of brinjal shoot and fruit borer (*Leucinodes orbonalis* Guene)

DILEEP K. SINGH^{1*}, L.P.YADAVA², RAJESH PATI² AND VIJAI KUMAR GUPTA²

¹Dept. of Horticulture, Raja Balwant Singh College, Bichpuri, AGRA (U.P.) INDIA

²Central Institute for Sub-tropical Horticulture, LUCKNOW (U.P.) INDIA

(Accepted : January, 2008)

Three insecticides i.e. Endosulfan (0.05%), Cypermethrin (0.05%) and Malathion (0.05%) were sprayed against the infestation of shoot and fruit borer to evaluate suitable control measure against the pest to get the higher yield. The minimum (21.5%) infestation was observed with Endosulfan followed by Cypermethrin (24.13%) and Malathion (25.17%). Total yield of healthy brinjal fruits was higher (350q/h) with Endosulfan treated plants and lowest (112.5q/h) with control. High profit was obtained from Endosulfan (0.07%) applied schedule followed by Cypermethrin (0.05%) for each rupee.

Key words : Insecticides, Endosulfane, Cypermethrin, Malathion, Brinjal

INTRODUCTION

Brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) is very much palatable among widely grown vegetables in different parts of the world. Among the Solanaceous vegetables, brinjal, *Solanum melongena* Linn. is the most common, popular and principal vegetable crop grown in many geographical parts in India. The area under brinjal cultivation is estimated at 0.51 million ha. with total production of 8,200,000 Mt (FAO data, 2005, <http://faostat.fao.org/>). There is a vast scope to make brinjal cultivation more paying by improving the productivity. Brinjal shoot and fruit borer (*Leucinodes orbonalis* GUENE) causes serious damage to brinjal crop in all the regions of the country with losses range from 50-70%. The young larvae of the pest bore in to petioles and midribs of large leaves and tender shoots causing shoot tips to wilt and later they bore in to flower buds and fruits. The larvae of the pest move about for sometimes often hatching and bore in about 30 minutes in the fruits through epicarp (Panda *et al.*, 1971). The affected fruits loose their market value besides considerable reduction in yield. The pest poses a serious problem because of its high reproductive potential, rapid turnover of generations and intensive cultivation of brinjal both in wet and dry seasons of the year. Farmers use large quantities of chemical insecticides singly or in combination to get blemish free fruits, which fetch premium prices in the market. Around 25 to 80 sprays are undertaken for effective control of

brinjal fruit and shoot borer. Lack of resistant cultivars and effective biological control agents and other non-chemical pest control measures have led to the use of toxic chemicals for its control. Despite diverse ill effects of the chemical pesticides, insecticides use still contributing to be the means to tackle this pest. Realizing serious pest status of original shoot and fruit borer, few promising and widely recommended insecticides were incorporated in the present investigation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

An investigation was conducted at Agriculture farm of the Raja Balwant Singh College, Bichpuri, Agra (U.P.) during winter season. Three insecticides i.e. Endosulfan (0.05%), Cypermethrin (0.05%) and Malathion (0.05%) were sprayed against the infestation of shoot and fruit borer to evaluate suitable control measure against the pest to get the higher yield. The experiment was laid in Randomized Block Design with four replications. The observations of the effect of various treatments in different insecticidal schedules on shoot damage, fruit damage, total fruit yield and total healthy fruit yield were recorded. Fruit infestation was recorded on each plucking date at 7, 14, 21 day after each spraying. Total healthy fruits harvested from each treatment both in number and weight were also estimated. For computing the economics of application the cost of additional yield over control and cost of application of insecticides were calculated. Analysis of variance was done according to Snedecor and Cochran (1956).

* Author for Correspondence (Present address): Dept. of Meteorology, Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, LUCKNOW (U.P.) INDIA