

# Evaluation of entomopathogenic fungi against the mealy bug on custard apple

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## ABSTRACT

Different entomopathogenic fungi were evaluated in field trials at the instructional farm of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) Dhule provided by Department of Entomology, College of Agriculture, Dhule for the management of mealy bug on custard apple in *Kharif* season of 2014-15. All the treatments were observed to be effective in reducing mealy bug infestation on custard apple. Among the evaluated insecticide and biopesticides the treatment with *Verticillium lecanii* 7.5 g/lit. was recorded significantly lowest mealy bug population and was at par with *Verticillium lecanii* 5 g/lit. (12.74). The next best treatments protection included Trizophos 40 EC 3 ml/lit. (14.26) and it was at par with *Verticillium lecanii* 2.5 g/lit. (14.40). The next treatments in this respect were *Metarhizium anisopliae* 7.5 g/lit. (15.68), *Metarhizium anisopliae* 5 g/lit. (16.33), *Beauveria bassiana* 7.5 g/lit. (17.37), *Metarhizium anisopliae* 2.5 g/lit. (18.13), *Beauveria bassiana* 5 g/lit. (20.54) and *Beauveria bassiana* 2.5 g/lit. (22.25). There was an increase in mealy bug population in untreated check to the extent of 35.52 numbers of colonies as compared to treated plots.

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