

Research Paper :

## Study on evaluation of different insecticides against leaf eating caterpillar (*Thalassodes dissita* Walker) on mango and cashew

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### SUMMARY

The *Thalassodes dissita* Walker is very common on both the Mango and cashew crops this was considered to be a minor pest in the past. However, in recent days, it is becoming regular pest causing considerable damage to the tender foliage of nursery seedlings and grafts. The infestation is also severe in bud wood orchards and young plantations on tender vegetative flush during rainy season.

### Key words :

*Thalassodes dissita*,  
*Anacardium occidentale*  
*Mangifera indica*

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) belonging to family Anacardiaceae universally considered as the most delicious tropical fruit of the world and has been called 'King of fruits'. It is also a 'National fruit of India'. Mango is grown in at least 111 countries spread over five continents. India ranks first in world with total production of 10.8 million metric tons from about 1.6 million hectare area, which is nearly forty three per cent, the total world area under mango (FAO, 2006).

The cashew nut (*Anacardium occidentale* L.) is a native of south eastern Brazil belongs to the family Anacardiaceae. It was introduced in sixteenth century by the Portuguese on west coast of India mainly to check the soil erosion (Murthy and Ramadevi, 1985).

Several pests have been reported on these crops affecting the productivity greatly. Mango alone has been reported to be infested by 551 pests in the different parts of the world which includes 492 species of insects, 17 species of mites, 26 species of nematodes, 9 species of birds and 7 species of mammals (Tandon and Verghese, 1985) whereas, cashew crop has been reported to be infested by 180 pests in India including insects, mites and vertebrates (Sundararaju and Bhaktavathsalam, 1990). Among the several leaf eating caterpillars feeding on these crops. The *Thalassodes dissita* Walker is very common on both the

crops. This was considered to be a minor pest in the past. However, in recent days, it is becoming regular pest causing considerable damage to the tender foliage of nursery seedlings and grafts. The infestation is also severe in bud wood orchards and young plantations on tender vegetative flush during rainy season.

Therefore, keeping the above facts in view the present investigation was aimed to study effect of different insecticides against *Thalassodes dissita* on mango and cashew.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experiment was laid out in a Randomised Block Design with three replications and ten treatments were arranged experiments units at random.

To determine the relative efficacy of different insecticides against leaf eating caterpillar, *Thalassodes dissita* the experiment was conducted under laboratory condition at the Department of Agril. Entomology, College of Agriculture, Dapoli during Kharif 2007-2008.

Details of insecticidal treatment are given in Table 1.

### Method of insecticidal treatment:

The pesticide solutions were prepared with desired concentration as mentioned in treatment details. One litre quantity of pesticide

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