

An Overview of Bio-Rational Approaches for Brinjal Insect Pest Management

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ABSTRACT

Bio-rational insecticides have been introduced to control insect pests since chemical insecticides are highly toxic to living organisms and to the environment. Bio-rational insecticides have low toxic effect or no toxic effect to plant, as it is the prerequisite to control insect pest by different bio-rational approaches rather than conventional insecticide and to give emphasis on bio-rational approaches. Again, the chemical ones are adversely affected the natural enemies as well as human beings. The resistance developed against the conventional chemicals surge for the approach towards the bio-rational insecticides. A diversity of new botanical insecticides with special activity on insect pests is in the process of development as well as their importance are very much high to control effectively insect pests of Brinjal.

KEY WORDS: BIO-RATIONAL, ENVIRONMENT, RESISTANCE DEVELOPED.

INTRODUCTION

Egg plant or Brinjal (*Solanum melongena*) has a considerable economic importance in our country in regard to agriculture. Particularly, Brinjal plant is affected by various insect species like shoot and fruit borer, leaf eating insects like Epilachna beetle and sucking insects like thrips, whiteflies, aphids etc very easily. It is estimated that every year around 70-92 percent yield loss is happening due to the major pests of Brinjal (Reddy and Srinivasa, 2004; Chakraborti and Kanti, 2011; Jagginavar et al., 2009). Most of the farmers depend on synthetic chemical insecticides for the management of these pests. But usage of chemical pesticides is undesirable due to high cost, high toxicity, possibility to develop resistance among pest species, resurgence of certain pest populations and adverse effect on beneficial organisms such as pollinators

and natural enemies etc. So, it is necessary to adopt such bio-rational approaches for brinjal insect pests, which match into IPM strategy and will be much safe, economical as well as selective. The primary objective is to evaluate the efficiency of microbial preparations, bio-rational and neem-based insecticides against major pests of brinjal.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Bio-rational pesticide may be referred as "any type of insecticide that act against target insect pests but less deleterious to non target organism like pollinators and natural enemies. They have systemic action and less residual toxicity also. The different types of Bio-rational Pesticides Botanicals, Microbial, Insect Growth Regulators (IGR), Bacterial Fermentation Products.

Brinjal shoot and fruit borer *Leucinodes orbonalis* (Pyralidae; Lepidoptera): It is one of the devastating pest on eggplant. Varma et al., (2009) observed that the fruit damage and weight loss of fruit varied from 3.76 to 45.45 % and 3.00 to 67.71 % in 1st year and 5.71 to 44.26 per cent and 3.00 to 51.33 per cent in 2nd year due to Brinjal shoot and fruit borer.

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Management by parasitoids: The releasing of egg parasitoid, *Trichogramma chilonis* @ 1g parasitized eggs/ha/week and larval parasitoid, Bracon habetor @ 800-1000 adults/ha/week could be followed (Alam, et.al, 2006). The bio-rational pesticides reduce its population on brinjal. The lowest shoot and fruit infestation were obtained from the parasitoid applied plot (23.75 & 20.45%), whereas the highest in chemical applied plot (36.72 and 29.65%). The infestation status of bio-rational pesticide and non treated plots reflects in the yield. Comparative higher yield was obtained from treated plots (20.24 t/ha) than non treated (14.76t/ha) which was 37.12% higher compared to non treated.

Management by Microbial: Mostly, *B. thuringiensis* (Bt) is utilized as a bio-pesticide. The proteins Cry and Cyt generated by the bacteria are highly toxic to insect pest but not to mammals or for the environment. To combat the infestation of Brinjal shoot and fruit borer, scientist gave efforts to develop the natural resistance or tolerance against the pest. They insert Cry1 Ac gene from soil bacterium, *Bacillus thuringiensis* into brinjal. Hence, two local brinjal cultivars namely, ISD006 and Uttara were transformed under ABSP-II program (BARI, 2014).

Leaf eating insect pest of brinjal: *Epilachna* beetles *E. vigintioctopunctata* (Coccinellidae, Coleoptera): *Epilachna* beetles are polyphagous pest and mostly distributed around Asia and Australia.

Management: Saxena and Sharma (2005) studies on insecticidal activity of Neem leaves extract against first instars of *E. vigintioctopunctata*. However, Satpathi and Ghatak (1990) have observed 90 percent mortality of the beetle with same concentration of *T. nerifolia* root extract. It was recorded 1.0 percent concentration of *N. indicum* seed and *E. globulus* flower extracts give most significant mortality. However, the extracts of lower concentrations did not see any significant effect on larval survival exhibiting mortality.

Sucking insect pests of brinjal: Leaf hopper *Amrasca devastans* Distant (Cicadellidae; Hemiptera): Both nymphs and adults damage the plants by sucking the sap by their piercing and sucking mouthparts from the lower leaf surfaces. The symptom of damages is crinkling, bronzing, and drying, or "hopper burn" (Srinivasan, 2009).

Management: The nymphs and adults are predated by ladybird beetles and green lacewings generally. Parasitoids such as *Anagrus flaveolus* and *Stethynium triclavatum* are efficacious against leafhopper. Neem-based bio pesticides like Neem seed kernel extract (NSKE) @ 5% can be sprayed.

Aphid *Aphis gossypii* (Aphididae; Hemiptera): It is a polyphagous pest attacking feeding on cotton, cucurbits, brinjal, and okra.

Management: The predators like ladybird beetles (*Coccinella* sp.) and green lacewings are mostly effective against aphids. Augmentive release of ladybird beetles

@ 200 pairs per ha at 15 days interval can reduce the aphid population.

Red spider mite *Tetranychus urticae* (Tetranychidae; Acarina): It is considered as a polyphagous pest attacking solanaceous as well as field crops. They use their long, needle-like mouthparts and extract the cell sap from the leaves.

Management: Under protected and humid condition predatory mites are effective to control spider mites. The third instar green lacewings (*Chrysoperla carnea*) can effectively consume 25-30 spider mite adults per day; however, it needs supplemental food for long-term survival (Hazarika et al., 2001).

CONCLUSION

Vegetable production is one of the more dynamic sectors of agriculture in view of the economic value of the production. And, Brinjal crop is attacked with various types of insect pest throughout the year. The adverse effect of chemicals such as insect resurgence and secondary out breaks make bio-rational approaches more prominent. The use of botanicals, microbial as well as natural enemies can be the novel approaches to manage the pest intensively. From different review findings, it is observed that combine approach of different bio rational management are more successful against brinjal shoot and fruit borer infestation. For management of leaf eating insects like *Epilachna* as well as sucking pests like aphids, leaf hopper, whitefly the microbial agents and botanical extracts can give most suitable result without causing any adverse secondary effects. So, it can be recommended based on this study that a combine bio rational approach is effective against the pest complex of brinjal crop.

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