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ON THE CONTROL OF *LIOTHRIPS KARNYI* (BAGNALL) PEPPER LEAF GALL TRIPS

Liothrips karnyi is known as a pest of pepper *(Piper nigrum)* infesting leaves (Visalakshi and Joseph 1967). The thrips infestation causes the formation of characteristic marginal galls on tender pepper leaves all along their margins. The thickenings caused by feeding of the thrips result in the leaf margin getting folded enclosing a tubular cavity within. The attacked leaves become undersized crinkled malformed and pale; the growth of the attacked veins gets arrested as a result. There is no information available on the use of insecticides in controlling this thrips. The present note embodies results of an experiment undertaken during 1976 in the Agricultural College Farm, Vellayani to control the thrips infesting Panniyur – 1 variety of pepper using some new systemic insecticides.

Table 1

Mean counts of L. *karnyi* per leaf of pepper 7 days after treatment with different insecticides

Insecticide & Concentration (%)	Mean No. of thrips per leaf		
	Adults	Nymphs	Total
Phosphamidon 0.05	8.0	0.0	8.0
Dimethoate 0.03	1.3	3.3	4.7
Monocrotophos 0.02	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chlorodimeform hydrochloride 0 05	25 7	23.3	49.0
Formothion 0.025	24.7	58.3	83.0
Control	93 7	25.7	119.3

The insecticides (see Table 1) were sprayed on vines showing the thrips attack, one vine carrying ten to twelve leaves being sprayed with each insecticide. Spraying was done with an atomiser using 1 ml. of the spray fluid for each leaf. Three leaves from each treated vine and a control vine (unsprayed) were collected at random seven days after treatment and counts of the adults and nymphs inhabiting the galls made. Results are presented in Table 1.

It may be seen that monocrotophos is the most effective in controlling the trips closely followed by dimethoate and phosphamidon. Chlorodimeform hydrochloride is much less effective than these and formothion not effective at all.

സംഗ്രഹം

കുരുമുളക് കൊടിയുടെ ഇലകളുടെ വക്കുകൾ മടക്കുന്ന ലയോത്രിപ്പ്സ് കാർണിയെ എന്ന ത്രിപ്പ്സിന്റെ നിവാരണത്തിനു മോണോക്രോട്ടോഫോസ്, ഡൈമീതോയേറ്റ്, ഫോസ്ഫമിഡോൺ എന്നീ കീടനാശിനികൾ ഉത്തമങ്ങളായി ത്രിപ്പ്സ് ബാധിച്ച ചെടികളിൽ നടത്തിയ ഒരു പരീക്ഷണത്തിൽ നിന്നും തെളിഞ്ഞു.

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