

EFFICACY OF INSECTICIDES AGAINST POD FLY (*Melanagromyza obtusa*) OF PIGEONPEA

ABSTRACT

Efficacy of insecticides against pod fly (*Melanagromyza obtusa*) of pigeonpea was evaluated under field conditions. There ~~are~~ were 9 treatments viz., chlorantraniliprole

18.5% SC, indoxacarb 14.5% SC, spinetoram 11.7% SC, emamectin benzoate 5% SG, acetamiprid 20% SP, lambda-cyhalothrin 5% EC, spinetoram 11.7% SC, fipronil 5% SC, quinalphos 25% EC and untreated control. Two sprays were ~~conducted~~ applied at an interval of 15 days. The performance of each insecticide treatment was categorized on the basis of maggot population. The ~~R~~ results revealed that, foliar spray of chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC @ 0.3 ml/l ~~of~~ water was superior treatment ~~with in terms of~~ least average population of pod flies (0.95 maggots/plant). ~~However, it ,and at par to was followed by~~ indoxacarb 14.5% SC @ 0.7 ml/l ~~of~~ water and spinetoram 11.7% SC @ 0.5 ml/l ~~of~~ water ~~with reported~~ 0.98 and 1.05 maggots/plant, respectively. ~~and were at par with each other.~~

1. INTRODUCTION

Pigeonpea (*Cajanus cajan* L. Millsp.), also known as Red gram or Arhar or Tur. The term 'pigeonpea' was coined in Barbados, where its seeds were considered as an important pigeon feed (Gowda *et al.*, 2011). It is thought to have originated in India. It belongs to the genus *Cajanus*, subtribe *Cajaninae*, family Fabaceae. Pigeonpea is the second important pulse crop in India after chickpea, grown in many countries and contributes important share in sustainable nutritional food security. It is an important grain legume crop predominantly grown in the Indian subcontinent as an important source of dietary protein. It is also cultivated in other parts of the world, including sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and South-East Asia. Its cultivation is increasing in semi-arid areas because of the crop's ability to thrive under prolonged drought and in degraded lands (Upadhyaya *et al.*, 2012). Since its domestication in the Indian subcontinent at least 3500 years ago, its seeds have become a common food in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In India, it is mainly consumed in the form of split pulse as dal. The people consume pigeonpea as dry seeds and green peas as staple food crop for several

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communities in India (Tabo *et al.*, 1995). Its immature green seeds and pods are also consumed as a green vegetable. Pigeonpea's fiber quality is very great (7g/100g of seeds) (Kandhare, 2014). The defoliated leaves also add nitrogen and organic matter to the soil (Mafongoya *et al.*, 2006). The husk of pods and leaves makes a valuable cattle fodder. The dry sticks of the pigeonpea plant are used for fuel, thatches, storage bins (baskets) and now also present days for biochar making etc. (Tiwar and Shivhare, 2017). Pigeonpea contains higher amounts of proteins (20% to 22%), carbohydrates (65%), fat (1.2%) and ash (3.9%) (Anonymous, 2005). Pigeonpea seeds are rich in potassium, phosphorus, magnesium, calcium and iodine and also provide essential amino acids like lysine, tyrosine and arginine, whereas cystine and methionine contents are low (Saxena *et al.*, 2010).

The principal causes for least productivity as growing of pigeonpea are growing under poor conditions such as cultivating on marginal lands and lack of proper management techniques for controlling insect pests. These pests attacking red gram mainly damages pods and flowers and that causes maximum economical damage. Red gram is attacked by several insect pests regularly frequently. Among the insect pests attacking of red gram, *Helicoverpa armigera*, *Maruca vitrata*, *Melanagromyza obtusa*, *Exelastis atomosa*, and *Clavigralla gibbosa* damages pigeonpea the crop drastically. Among these pests above mentioned, Pod fly (*Melanagromyza obtusa*) is notorious and serious pest that causes more than 20% to 80% damage to grains (Subharani and Singh, 2009).

Melanagromyza obtusa (Diptera: Agromyzidae) is an important pigeonpea insect-pest in North-east Asia. Pod fly attacks the crop during from the pod filling stage to pod maturity also starting from pod filling stage. They and lay eggs (oviposition) on inner walls of the pod. Adult females oviposit singly inside the epidermis, and after once larvae coming out emerge, they will feed on pods by mining in to it into them and that leads them make pods not them unfit for consumption and seed value also decreases (Lal and Yadav, 1993). It feeds on internal parts of the pod. Pupa and maggots of pod fly are generally found inside the pod. In general, no symptoms are observed while the larvae growing inside the pod. Later adult fly comes out through the thin paper like membrane (window) which is a layer of pod wall left by larvae. Due to concealed way of life within the seeds, the pod fly attack remains unnoticed by farmer and thus it has become hard to control the pod fly. This pod fly infestation leads to reduced productivity and production.

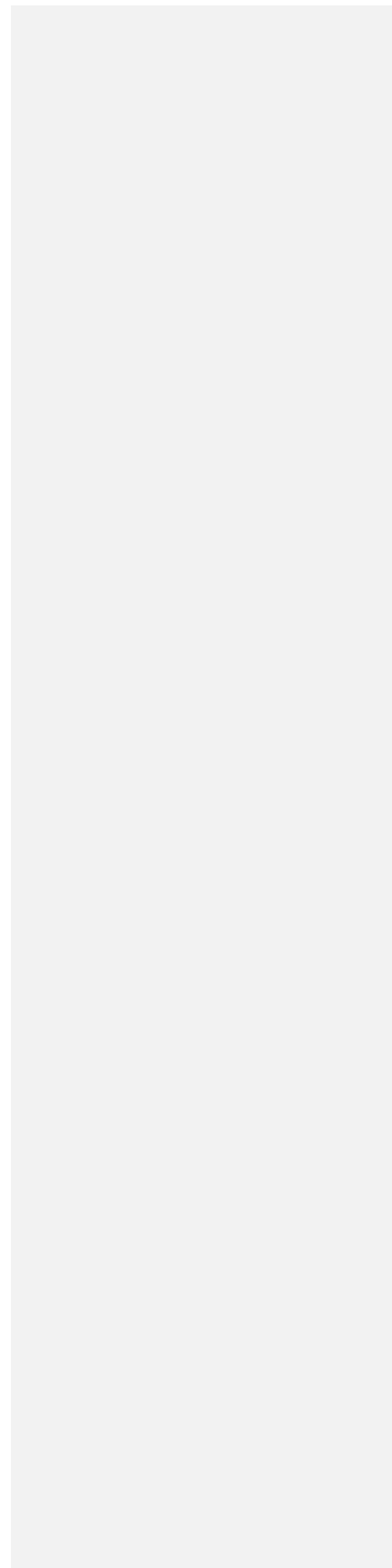
Hence, it is inevitable to protect the crop from infestation of pod fly by using insecticides. Extensive use of conventional chemical insecticides may lead to development of resistance to insecticides, outbreak of secondary pest, and the problem of residues in the food and fodder as chemical control is the most effective and produce

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instantaneous effects in reducing these menaces. Therefore, keeping this view and



considering economic importance of pigeonpea, this study was taken up to test the efficacy of insecticides against pigeonpea pod fly.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experiment on efficacy of insecticides against pod fly (*Melanagromyza obtusa*) of pigeonpea was carried out at Research Farm of Pulses Improvement Project, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri during *Kharif*, 2023. There ~~are~~ were 9 treatments ~~were taken consisting of~~ different insecticides viz., spinetoram 11.7% SC @ 0.5 ml/l ~~of~~ water, indoxacarb 14.5% SC @ 0.7 ml/l ~~of~~ water, chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC @ 0.3 ml/l ~~of~~ water, lambda-cyhalothrin 5% EC @ 1.0 ml/l ~~of~~ water, fipronil 5% SC @ 0.66 ml/l ~~of~~ water, acetamiprid 20% SP @ 0.4 g/l ~~of~~ water, emamectin benzoate 5% SG @ 0.44 g/l ~~of~~ water and quinalphos 25% EC @ 2.0 ml/l ~~of~~ water ~~were~~ tested for their efficacy against pod fly (*M. obtusa*). These treatments were replicated three times in randomized block design (RBD). The performance of each insecticide treatment was categorized on the basis of maggot population (number of maggots per plant), percent pod damage and percent grain damage. ~~Each insecticidal treatment was sprayed twice Two sprays were conducted~~ at an interval of 15 days.

The efficacy of insecticides was evaluated by selecting five plants randomly from each treated plot and 5 pods from each plant for recording observations on the number of maggots of pod fly before each application and at 3, 7, and 14 days after the application of insecticide treatment.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Efficacy of insecticides against pod fly (*M. obtusa*) on pigeonpea

First Spray:

The data presented in Table 1 represents population (maggot) of pigeonpea pod fly (*Melanagromyza obtusa*) on one day before, 3, 7 and 14 days after the first spray. The average population of *M. obtusa* one day before spray was ranged between 4.12 to 5.04 maggots/plant and were found statistically non-significant, suggesting that the population of pod fly on pigeonpea was uniform in field. Results of the mean efficacy of different insecticides against pod fly on pigeonpea at first spray revealed that, the ~~treatment with~~ insecticide chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC @ 0.3 ml/l ~~of~~ water recorded minimum mean average population of pod fly (1.34 maggots/plant) ~~and which~~ was followed by the treatments with indoxacarb 14.5% SC @ 0.7 ml/l ~~of~~ water and spinetoram 11.7% SC @ 0.5 ml/l ~~of~~ water ~~with i.e.~~, 1.40 and 1.46 maggots/plant, respectively ~~which that~~ were at par with each other. Next best treatment was emamectin benzoate 5% SG @ 0.4 g/l of water with 1.69 maggots/plant and it was at par with acetamiprid 20% SP @ 0.4 g/l of water (1.75 maggots/plant) and lambda-cyhalothrin 5% EC @ 1.0 ml/l of water (1.80 maggots/plant). ~~Whereas, fipronil 5% SC @~~

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Comment [an6]: Specify the 1st spray interval in days after sowing of crop

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~~0.66 ml/l of water recorded 2.03 maggots/plant.~~ However,
thetreatmentwithquinalphos25%EC@2.0ml/lofwater(2.07maggots/plant)was

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found least effective among all tested insecticides. Whereas, untreated control recorded highest mean population of pod fly (4.58 maggots/plant) after first spray.

Table 1. Efficacy of insecticides against pod fly (*M. obtusa*) on pigeonpea after first spray

Tr. No.	Treatments	Dose gorml/litre of water	Pre count	Numberofmaggotsperplant			
				3 DAS**	7 DAS	14 DAS	Mean
1.	Spinetoram 11.7% SC	0.5 ml	4.76 (2.29)*	1.64 (1.46)	1.28 (1.33)	1.46 (1.40)	1.46 (1.40)
2.	Indoxacarb 14.5% SC	0.7 ml	4.84 (2.31)	1.58 (1.44)	1.22 (1.31)	1.42 (1.38)	1.40 (1.38)
3.	Chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC	0.3 ml	4.32 (2.19)	1.52 (1.42)	1.14 (1.28)	1.36 (1.36)	1.34 (1.35)
4.	Lambda-cyhalothrin 5% EC	1.0 ml	4.12 (2.15)	2.06 (1.60)	1.58 (1.44)	1.76 (1.50)	1.80 (1.51)
5.	Fipronil 5% SC	0.66 ml	4.64 (2.27)	2.34 (1.69)	1.80 (1.52)	1.96 (1.57)	2.03 (1.59)
6.	Acetamiprid 20% SP	0.4 g	4.56 (2.25)	2.00 (1.58)	1.54 (1.43)	1.72 (1.49)	1.75 (1.50)
7.	Emamectinbenzoate 5% SG	0.4 g	4.96 (2.33)	1.92 (1.55)	1.50 (1.41)	1.66 (1.47)	1.69 (1.48)
8.	Quinalphos 25% EC	2.0 ml	5.04 (2.35)	2.38 (1.70)	1.84 (1.53)	1.99 (1.58)	2.07 (1.60)
9.	Untreated control	-	4.24 (2.18)	4.45 (2.22)	4.76 (2.29)	4.52 (2.24)	4.58 (2.25)
S. E.(m)±			0.04	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02
C.D. @5%			N. S.	0.08	0.07	0.06	0.07

*Figuresinparenthesesindicate√n+0.5transformed values N.S.-Nonsignificant

**DAS–Daysafterspraying

Secondspray:

The data presented in Table 2 represents population (maggot) of pigeonpea pod fly, (*Melanagromyzaobtuse*) on 3rd, 7th and 14th days after the second spray. Results of the mean efficacy of different insecticides against pod fly on pigeonpea ~~after~~ second spray revealed that, the ~~treatment with application of insecticide~~ chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC @ 0.3 ml/l of water recorded minimum mean average survival population of pod fly (0.72 maggots/plant) ~~and~~, which was at par with ~~followed by the treatments with~~ indoxacarb 14.5% SC @ 0.7 ml/l of water and spinetoram 11.7% SC @ 0.5 ml/l of water with 0.78 and 0.82 maggots/plant, respectively which were at par with each other. Next best treatment was emamectin benzoate 5% SG @ 0.4 g/l of water with 1.01 maggots/plant and it was at par with acetamiprid 20% SP @ 0.4 g/l of water (1.07 maggots/plant) and lambda-cyhalothrin 5% EC @ 1.0 ml/l of water (1.11 maggots/plant). ~~Whereas, fipronil 5% SC @ 0.66 ml/l of~~

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water recorded 1.32 maggots/plant. However, the treatment with quinalphos 25% EC @ 2.0 ml/l of water (1.37 maggots/plant) was found least effective among all tested insecticides. Whereas, untreated control recorded highest mean population of pod fly (4.79 maggots/plant) after second spray.

The results of current study showed similarity with the findings of Dadas *et al.* (2019) who reported that, chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC was proved most promising in reducing pod fly population. Present finding is also in consistence with Chiranjeevi and Sarnaik (2017) who evaluated the effect of different insecticide treatments on pod fly population. The result related to the population of *M. obtusa*, showed similarity with the Patel and Patel (2013) who also reported chlorantraniliprole @ 30 g a.i./ha was superior treatment against pigeonpea pod borer complex. Patidar and Vaishampayan (2022) found that chlorantraniliprole 18.5 % SC @ 0.2 ml/l followed by indoxacarb 14.5 % SC have good effect for control of pigeonpea borer complex.

Table 2. Efficacy of insecticides against pod fly (*M. obtusa*) on pigeonpea after second spray

Tr.No.	Treatments	Dose gorml/litre of water	Number of maggots per plant			
			3 DAS**	7 DAS	14 DAS	Mean
1.	Spinetoram 11.7% SC	0.5 ml	1.20 (1.30)*	0.74 (1.11)	0.54 (1.02)	0.82 (1.14)
2.	Indoxacarb 14.5% SC	0.7 ml	1.14 (1.28)	0.68 (1.09)	0.52 (1.01)	0.78 (1.12)
3.	Chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC	0.3 ml	1.08 (1.26)	0.62 (1.06)	0.48 (0.99)	0.72 (1.10)
4.	Lambda-cyhalothrin 5% EC	1.0 ml	1.52 (1.42)	1.04 (1.24)	0.78 (1.13)	1.11 (1.26)
5.	Fipronil 5% SC	0.66 ml	1.77 (1.51)	1.26 (1.33)	0.94 (1.20)	1.32 (1.35)
6.	Acetamiprid 20% SP	0.4 g	1.48 (1.41)	0.98 (1.22)	0.74 (1.11)	1.07 (1.25)
7.	Emamectin benzoate 5% SG	0.4 g	1.42 (1.39)	0.92 (1.19)	0.68 (1.09)	1.01 (1.22)
8.	Quinalphos 25% EC	2.0 ml	1.80 (1.52)	1.30 (1.34)	1.00 (1.22)	1.37 (1.36)
9.	Untreated control	-	4.72 (2.28)	4.82 (2.31)	4.84 (2.31)	4.79 (2.30)
S. E. (m) ±			0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02
C.D. @ 5 %			0.08	0.07	0.08	0.07

*Figures in parentheses indicate $\sqrt{n + 0.5}$ transformed values **DAS – Days after spraying

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CONCLUSION

From the present study, it can be concluded that the treatment chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC was the most effective treatment, resulting in the lowest average pod fly population at (1.0 maggots/plant). ~~This was followed by indoxacarb 14.5% SC and spinetoram 1.7% SC, which recorded 1.09 and 1.1 maggots per plant, respectively; these three treatments were statistically at par with each other.~~ Chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC resulted in the lowest percentage of pod damage at 8.74% and grain damage at 5.69%. To effectively manage the pigeonpea pod fly (*Melanagromyza obtusa*), farmers can use chlorantraniliprole 18.5% SC at a rate of 0.3 ml/l of water to achieve higher yields and net returns.

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DISCLAIMER (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)

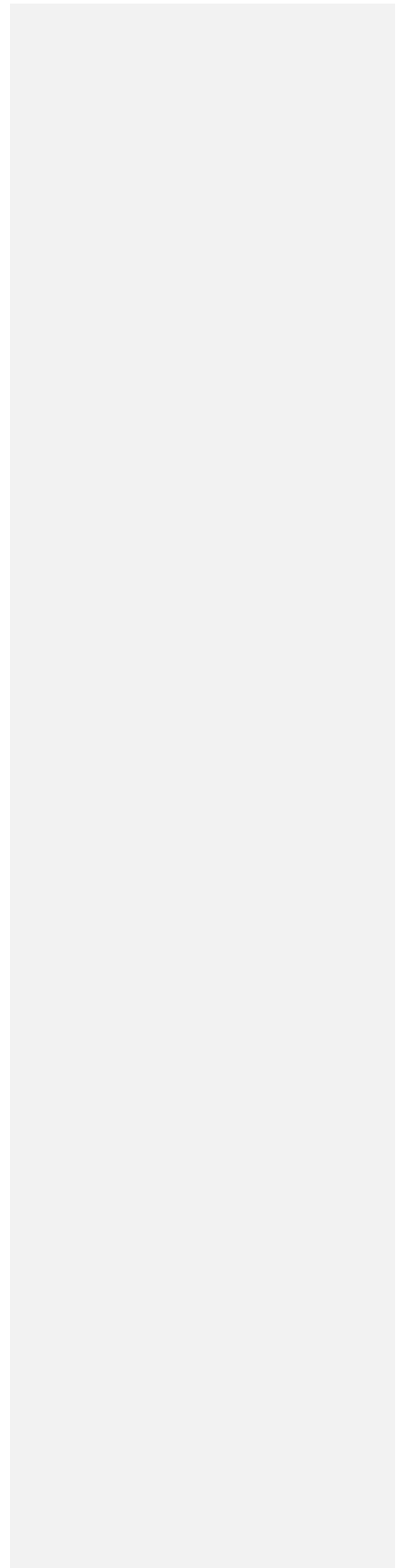
Author(s) hereby declares that NO generative AI technologies such as Large Language Models (ChatGPT, COPILOT, etc) and text-to-image generators have been used during writing or editing of this manuscript.

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