

Original Research Article

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Studies on the Compatibility of Insecticides and Fungicides against Major Insect Pests and Diseases of Rice

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ABSTRACT

The present experiment was carried out in the experimental farm of Regional Research and Technology Transfer Station (OUAT), Chiplima, Sambalpur, Odisha, during *kharif* 2013 and Rabi 2013-14 to determine the compatibility of selected insecticides and fungicides against major insect pests like stem borer, brown plant hopper and diseases like blast and sheath blight of rice. The treatments include: T1- Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) 24 SC @ 875 ml/ha; T2- Triazophos 40 EC @ 750 ml/ha; T3- Hexaconazole 5 SC @ 1000 ml/ha; T4- Tricyclazole 75 WP @ 300 g/ha; T5- T1+T3; T6- T1+T4; T7- T2+T3; T8- T2+T4; T9-untreated control. Among the different combinations tested, Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) 24 SC in combination with Hexaconazole 5 SC recorded less dead heart (2.22%) and white ear head (2.94%), blast incidence (2.76%), sheath blight incidence (3.55%) and produced highest yield (4.3 t/ha) followed by Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) SC (2.63%, 3.75%, 3.43%, 4.90% and 4 t/ha) and Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) 24 SC in combination with Tricyclazole 75 WP (4%, 1.23%, 1.61%, 4.05% and 3.8 t/ha) compared to untreated control where the incidence of DH (11.70%), WEH (12 %), blast incidence (4.60%), sheath blight incidence was 5.7% and produced yield (2.4 t/ha). There was no reduction in the efficacy of these insecticides and fungicides when used as tank mix. No phytotoxicity symptoms were noticed in treated field. So, all the insecticides and fungicides combinations are compatible with each other and can be safely used as tank mix for the control of rice insect pests and diseases, thus, saving labour costs.

Keywords

Combination, Compatibility, DH, WEH, Hoppers, Blast, Sheath blight, Phytotoxicity.

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Introduction

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is the staple food of more than three billion people in the world and fulfills the nutritional requirement of half of the world population (FAO, 2004). In India it is the most important cereal crop covering about one-fourth of the total cropped area and providing food to about half of the Indian population. There are about 10,000 varieties of rice are grown in the world out of which almost 4,000 are grown in India (Kulmitra *et*

al., 2017). Introduction and wide adoption of high yielding varieties has led to severe incidence of different insect pests. But, its production is hampers by infestation of a large number of insect pests and pathogens. Among them, yellow stem borer (YSB), *Scirpophaga incerulas* (Walk.), brown plant hopper (BPH), *Nilaparvata lugens* (Stål), Rice blast caused by *Pyricularia oryzae* Cavara and Sheath blight caused by

Rhizoctonia solani Kunh are the major entities for huge economic crop losses of rice. The YSB attacks the crop from the seedling stage to the harvesting stage and thus causes complete loss of affected tillers. Dead hearts are produced when the insect attacks at vegetative stage while white heads occur when the stem borer attack at time of heading. Yield losses due to yellow stem borer are estimated 1-19% in early planted and 38-80% in late transplanted rice crops (Catinding and Heong, 2003). BPH attacks the crop from late vegetative stage to grains hardening stage. Both the nymphs and adults suck the sap from the plant causing chlorotic, wilting and drying up of rice plant. This feeding damage is commonly known as 'hopper-burn' which begins in patches but spread rapidly as the hoppers move from dying plants to adjacent plants.

They causes almost 10 to 90 percent yield losses in rice but if timely control measures are not taken up, there may be possibility of total crop loss within a very short period (Seni and Naik, 2017). Rice blast caused by *Pyricularia oryzae* Cavara is one of the most destructive and wide spread diseases of rice (Jia *et al.*, 2000). In severe cases, it may causes up to 80% of total yield reduction. Sheath blight, caused by *Rhizoctonia solani* Kunh, is an another important destructive disease of rice occurs in all rice growing areas of the world (Teng *et al.*, 1990). Depending upon the age of the plant, time of infection and severity, it causes yield loss to the extent of 5.9 to 69 per cent (Swamy *et al.*, 2009). Most of the times insect pests and diseases occurs together in rice. In such conditions use of combination of suitable insecticides and fungicides is economical and practicable for their management. Keeping this in mind, the study was undertaken to evaluate the compatibility of selected insecticides and fungicides against major insect pests and diseases of rice under field condition.

Materials and Methods

The experiment was conducted in the experimental farm of Regional Research and Technology Transfer Station (OUAT), Chiplima, Sambalpur, Odisha, during *kharif* 2013 and *Rabi* 2013-14 in Randomized Block Design (RBD), having 9 treatments which were replicated thrice in a net experimental area of 5 m x 4 m each. The Station is situated at 20°21' N latitude and 80°55'E longitude in Dhankauda block of Sambalpur district at an altitude of 178.8 m above MSL. The climate of the area is warm/sub humid. The cultivar Jaya was transplanted at 25 days old at 20 cm x 15 cm hill spacing.

All the agronomic practices were followed during crop growth period. The treatments were: T1- Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) 24 SC @ 875 ml/ha; T2- Triazophos 40 EC @ 750 ml/ha; T3- Hexaconazole 5 SC @ 1000 ml/ha; T4- Tricyclazole 75 WP @ 300 g/ha; T5- T1+T3; T6- T1+T4; T7- T2+T3; T8-T2+T4; T9-untreated control. Applications of all the treatments were done at 20, 45 and 65 DAT except untreated control. The insecticides were applied as high volume sprays @ 500 litres of spray fluid/ha. Observations on the incidence of dead heart (DH) were taken on 10 randomly selected hills per plot from each replication at 55 and 75 days after transplanting. The white ear head (WEH) was counted on 10 randomly selected hills from each plot just before harvest. Then percentage of dead hearts/ white ears was worked out. The hopper population per 10 hills was recorded 7 days after third spray. Percentage disease incidence of blast and sheath blight was recorded 10 days after third application of treatments. Symptoms of phytotoxicity were also recorded at 5 and 10 days after application of treatments. The Mean value of data obtained from field experiments were analyzed statistically by ANOVA. Finally the grain

yield was recorded in plot basis and expressed in ton/ ha.

Results and Discussion

Stem borer management

The result showed that all the treatments were significantly effective in reducing the infestation of rice yellow stem borer (YSB) and thus, reducing the formation of dead heart and white ear significantly as compared to the control (Tables 1 and 2). Among the different combinations tested, Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) 24 SC in combination with Hexaconazole 5 SC recorded less dead heart (2.22%) and white ear head (2.94%), followed by Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC (2.63%, 3.75%) and Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC in combination with Tricyclazole 75 WP (4%, 1.23%) compared to untreated control where the incidence of DH (11.70%), WEH (12%). The present finding in agreement with the Kartikeyan *et al.*, (2012) and they observed that flubendiamide + buprofezin treated plots had significantly less DH, WEH and hoppers than other treated plots. Tohnishi *et al.*, (2005), mentioned the strong insecticidal property of flubendiamide 480 SC against lepidopteran insect pests including resistant strains and it also shows safety for non-target organism. Flubendiamide 20 WDG at 12.5, 25 and 50 g a.i/ ha was found effective in reducing the stem borer damage at all the doses tested and was found to be safe to the natural enemies in the rice ecosystem (Gowda and Naik, 2005). Gowda (2005) reported that flubendiamide 20 WDG at 25 and 50 g a.i/ ha recorded low incidence of dead hearts (0.81 and 0.53 %) and white ears (1.26 and 1.20%) compared to other treatments.

Hoppers management

Brown plant hopper (BPH) is another major insect pest infesting rice in Hirakud command

area, chiplima. From the experimental result (Tables 1 and 2), it is observed that the best treatment was T5- Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) 24 SC @ 875 ml/ha in combination with Hexaconazole 5 SC @ 1000 ml/ha which recorded 18 numbers of BPH per 10 hills followed by Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) 24 SC @ 875 mlha⁻¹ in combination with Tricyclazole 75 WP @ 300 g/ha (24.5 numbers/10 hills) and Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC @ 875 mlha⁻¹ (25.5 numbers/10 hills). T1, T5, T6 treatments were superior in hopper management than T2, T3, T4, T7 and T8 treatments and differed significantly from untreated control plot (82 numbers/10 hills). Kartikeyan *et al.*, (2012) also observed the effectiveness of combination product flubendiamide (4%) + buprofezin (20%) 24 SC @ (875 ml/ha) for suppression of plant hoppers population in rice.

Effect on blast and sheath blight

The Field experiment revealed that in both the crop seasons blast and sheath blight disease incidence was lower in Jaya cultivar and among the treatments, Flubendiamide (4%) + Buprofezin (20%) 24 SC @ 875 ml/ha in combination with Tricyclazole 75 WP @ 300 g/ha recorded lowest blast incidence (1.61%) whereas Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC @ 875 ml/ha in combination with Hexaconazole 5 SC @ 1000 ml/ha treated plots had lowest sheath blight incidence (3.55%) (Tables 3). There was a significant difference among the combined treatments with respect to disease incidence of blast and sheath blight diseases and all treatments recorded significantly lower disease incidence compared to untreated control in both the seasons. Swamy *et al.*, 2009 observed the effectiveness of Hexaconazole 5 SC @ 2 ml/l for sheath blight management (controlled the disease to the tune of 31 per cent). Prasad *et al.*, 2015 found that the combination of Flubendiamide + buprofezin 24 SC @ 1.75

ml/l and Tricyclazole 75 WP @ 0.6 g/l was most effective against both stem borer and leaf blast with 3.22 and 5.01% infestation, respectively and fetched average grain yield of 30.39 q/ha.

Phytotoxicity effect

As regards to the crop health by visual observation it is observed that no phytotoxic symptoms viz., leaf yellowing, tip necrosis, scorching, epinasty and hyponasty were recorded 5 and 10 days after application of each treatments in both the seasons.

Yield

It is found that in table 4, Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC @ 875 ml/ha in

combination with Hexaconazole 5 SC @ 1000 ml/ha treated plot recorded highest yield of 4.3 t/ha (44% yield increase over control) followed by Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC@ 875 ml/ha (4 t/ha and 40% yield increase over control),

Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC @ 875 ml/ha in combination with Tricyclazole 75 WP @ 300 g/ha (3.85 t/ha), Triazophos 40EC @ 750 ml/ha in combination with Tricyclazole 75 WP @ 300 g/ha (3.71 t/ha), Triazophos 40EC @ 750 ml/ha (3.54 t/ha),

Triazophos 40 EC @ 750 ml/ha in combination with Hexaconazole 5 SC @ 1000 ml/ha (3.35 t/ha), Hexaconazole 5 SC @ 1000 ml/ha (3.28 t/ha), Tricyclazole 75 WP @ 300 g/ha (3.26 t/ha) respectively.

Table.1 Efficacy of chemicals against major insect pests of rice in Kharif, 2013

T. No	Treatment	Dose (g or ml/ha)	Stem borer (% DH)		WEH (%)	No. Plant hoppers/10 hills
			55 DAT*	75 DAT		
T ₁	Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC	875	4.61 (2.24)	1.84 (1.52)	4.48 (2.23)	27
T ₂	Triazophos 40EC	750	5.51 (2.44)	2.74 (1.79)	5.56 (2.45)	41
T ₃	Hexaconazole 5 SC	1000	8.06 (2.92)	10.11(3.26)	9.03 (3.08)	65
T ₄	Tricyclazole 75 WP	300	7.33 (2.79)	8.37 (2.98)	7.75 (2.85)	67
T ₅	T ₁ +T ₃	875+1000	3.74 (2.06)	1.68 (1.47)	3.71 (1.05)	21
T ₆	T ₁ +T ₄	875+300	4.37 (2.20)	1.90 (1.54)	4.10 (2.14)	24
T ₇	T ₂ +T ₃	750+1000	6.02 (2.54)	4.83 (2.30)	8.96 (3.07)	36
T ₈	T ₂ +T ₄	750+300	5.13 (2.70)	3.82 (2.07)	4.57 (2.25)	39
T ₉	Untreated control	-	10.41 (3.29)	14.38 (3.85)	12.86 (3.65)	88
	S.Em		0.17	0.09	0.12	1.97
	CD (5%)		0.53	0.28	0.35	5.91

*DAT: Days after Transplanting, Figures in parentheses are square root transformed values

Table.2 Efficacy of chemicals against major insect pests of rice in Rabi, 2013-14

T. No	Treatment	Dose (g or ml/ha)	Stem borer (% DH)		WEH (%)	No. Plant hoppers/10 hills
			55 DAT	75 DAT		
T ₁	Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC	150	2.59 (1.75)	1.52 (1.42)	3.02 (1.84)	24
T ₂	Triazophos 40EC	200	4.73 (2.27)	2.68 (1.78)	4.88 (2.30)	37
T ₃	Hexaconazole 5 SC	1000	7.25 (2.78)	9.07 (3.09)	8.16 (2.94)	62
T ₄	Tricyclazole 75 WP	1250	7.56 (2.84)	9.62 (3.18)	8.72 (3.03)	59
T ₅	T ₁ +T ₃	150+1000	2.40 (1.70)	1.06 (1.24)	2.17 (1.63)	15
T ₆	T ₁ +T ₄	150+1250	3.53 (1.99)	2.39 (1.69)	3.90 (2.08)	25
T ₇	T ₂ +T ₃	200+1000	3.88 (2.07)	3.34 (1.95)	4.13 (2.14)	37
T ₈	T ₂ +T ₄	200+1250	5.17 (2.37)	4.09 (2.14)	4.69 (2.27)	30
T ₉	Untreated control	-	8.95 (3.07)	13.06 (3.68)	11.22 (3.41)	76
	S.Em		0.14	0.16	0.10	2.54
	CD (5%)		0.43	0.48	0.32	7.62

*DAT: Days after Transplanting, Figures in parentheses are square root transformed values

Table.3 Effect of chemicals on the blast and sheath blight incidence of rice

T. No.	Treatment	Blast incidence (%)		Sheath blight incidence (%)	
		Kh'13	Rabi'13-14	Kh'13	Rabi'13-14
1	Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC	3.70 (2.05)	3.17 (1.91)	5.4 (2.44)	4.4 (2.21)
2	Triazophos 40EC	4.65 (2.27)	3.67 (2.04)	5.6 (2.47)	4.8 (2.29)
3	Hexaconazole 5 SC	2.47 (1.72)	2.47 (1.72)	4.0 (2.11)	3.4 (1.97)
4	Tricyclazole 75 WP	0.88 (1.16)	0.75 (1.11)	5.1 (2.36)	4.0 (2.13)
5	T ₁ +T ₃	3.13 (1.91)	2.40 (1.70)	3.9 (2.10)	3.2 (1.91)
6	T ₁ +T ₄	1.45 (1.39)	1.78 (1.51)	4.4 (2.21)	3.7 (2.04)
7	T ₂ +T ₃	3.62 (2.03)	2.98 (1.87)	4.2 (2.16)	3.6 (2.03)
8	T ₂ +T ₄	1.56 (1.43)	1.72 (1.49)	4.9 (2.32)	4.1 (2.14)
9	Untreated control	4.73 (2.29)	4.48 (2.23)	6.3 (2.61)	5.1 (2.37)
	S.Em	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.03
	CD (5%)	0.19	0.11	0.12	0.10

Figures in parentheses are square root transformed values

Table.4 Effect of certain chemicals on grain yield of rice

T. No.	Treatments	Grain yield (t/ha)		Mean	(%) yield increase over control
		Kharif, 2013	Rabi, 2013-14		
1	Flubendiamide 4% + Buprofezin 20 SC	3.77	4.25	4.01	40
2	Triazophos 40EC	3.21	3.86	3.54	31
3	Hexaconazole 5 SC	3.00	3.55	3.28	26
4	Tricyclazole 75 WP	3.06	3.45	3.26	25
5	T1+T3	3.99	4.60	4.30	44
6	T1+T4	3.87	3.82	3.85	37
7	T2+T3	3.12	3.57	3.35	28
8	T2+T4	3.43	3.98	3.71	35
9	Untreated control	2.13	2.72	2.43	-
	S.Em	0.11	0.07		
	CD (5%)	0.32	0.23		

All The treatments given plots gave superior yield than untreated control plot. The present findings are in agreement with the findings of Bhuvaneshwari and Krishnam Raju (2013) who reported that the effectiveness of six insecticides viz., buprofezin, pymeterozine, acephate, chlorantraniliprole, dinotefuron, and imidacloprid + ethiprole did not in any way hamper by mixing with different fungicides and they are compatible with each other for spray application to control the insect pests viz., stem borer, brown plant hopper, leaf folder and sheath blight. Bhatnagar, 2004 reported that the combination of cartap (Padan 50 WP) and tricyclazole (Beam 75 WP) was effective in reducing the damage by rice leaf folder and blast, and found to be compatible. Singh *et al.*, 2010 found that combination treatments of fungicides (tricyclazole and iprobenphos) and insecticides (indoxacarb and cartap hydrochloride) were biologically as effective as their individual treatments against neck blast, leaf folder and stem borer of rice.

Thus, the present study revealed that tank mixing of insecticides with fungicides involved in the present experiments did not

reduce the efficacy of the insecticides and fungicides against stem borer, hopper, rice blast and sheath blight. All the treatments with insecticide-fungicide combinations had significantly higher grain yield as compared to the control. Hence, they are compatible with each other for spray application to control the rice pests and may be recommended for field use.

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