

Original Research Article

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## Effect of Nitrogenous Fertilizer and Insecticides on Incidence of Leafhopper, *Amrasca biguttula biguttula* (Ishida) in Kharif Okra

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

Fonicamid,  
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Dimethoate and  
Okra.

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Impact of nitrogenous fertilizer and insecticides on incidence of leafhopper, *Amrasca biguttula biguttula* in okra was carried out at Agronomy Farm, B. A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand during *Kharif*, 2015. Results of pooled over three sprays during *kharif*, 2015 revealed that flonicamid (0.65) was found significantly superior than rest of the insecticides. The second best insecticide was dinotefuran (1.49). Thiamethoxam (2.23) and dimethoate (2.52) were at par with each other. While different doses of nitrogenous fertilizer did not have significant impact on population development of leafhopper. The interaction between different doses of nitrogenous fertilizer and insecticides was found non-significant. It indicated that there was no any significant impact of nitrogenous fertilizers on efficacy of insecticides on leafhopper in okra.

### Introduction

Okra (*Abelmoschus esculentus* L. Moench) is the only vegetable crop of significance in the Malvaceae family. The average production of okra in India is about 57.84 lakh tones and productivity 11.6 tones/ha (Pal *et al.*, 2013). In India, it is cultivated in 532.7 lakh hectares with a production of 6346.4 lakh MT and with the productivity of 11.9 MT/ha during 2013-2014 (Anon., 2014). One of the major constraints for okra production is heavy infestations caused by several insect pests which not only exert quantitative loss but also caused qualitative loss to the crop.

As many as, 72 insect species have been recorded on okra (Pal *et al.*, 2013). Among sucking pests, leafhopper is the major pest, which cause a yield loss of about 40-56 per cent in okra (Krishnaiah, 1980). One to the infestation of this pest, there was a reduction of 49.8 and 45.1 per cent in height and number of leaves, respectively (Rawat and Sadhu, 1973). Plants become more succulent and having profuse growth due to the use of nitrogenous fertilizer beyond its recommended dose, which ultimately invite large number of sucking pests. Under this

circumstance, farmers move to use insecticides indiscriminately with higher dose. Though conventional insecticides offers good control, their residue levels are high besides causing adverse effect like resurgence and resistance (Sridharan *et al.*, 2015). In this context, it is important to evaluate the efficacy of newer molecules with novel mode of action to find out the viable option for sustainable management of sucking insect pests of okra. Therefore, with a view to study the impact of nitrogenous fertilizer and insecticides on incidence of leaf hopper, present experiment was carried out.

## Materials and Methods

### Details of experiment

The experiment was conducted during *khariif* 2015 at Agronomy Farm, B. A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand. Okra variety GAO 5 was raised at 45 X 15 cm following standard agronomical practices. In order to study the effect of nitrogenous fertilizer and insecticides on incidence of leafhopper in okra, the experiment was laid out in a split plot design with three replications having plot size of 2.7 x 15.0 m. All fertilizer doses were applied in different plots according to respective treatments. Fifty percent nitrogen (in urea form) and 100 per cent phosphorus and potash (in form of single super phosphate and murate of potash) were applied at the time of sowing, while remaining 50 per cent nitrogen was applied at 30 days after sowing followed by earthing up operation. The first spray of respective insecticides was given on initiation of pests and subsequently two sprays were followed on need based. Dimethoate 30 EC (0.03%), thiamethoxam 25 WG (0.01%), flonicamid 50 WP (0.015%) and dinotefuran 20 SG (0.008%) was evaluated against leafhopper with three different nitrogenous fertilizer doses *viz.*, N<sub>1</sub> (50 kg/ha), N<sub>2</sub> (100

kg/ha) and N<sub>3</sub> (150 kg/ha) as well as N<sub>0</sub> (no nitrogen).

### Method of recording observation of leafhopper

The observations on population of leafhopper, *A. biguttula biguttula* on three leaves (top, middle and bottom canopy) from the five randomly selected plants were recorded from each plot. The observations were recorded at before spray and 1, 3, 5, 7 days after application of insecticides, respectively for each spray. The data obtained were statistically analyzed after following appropriate transformation.

The yield of okra fruit was recorded at periodical pickings as and when ready to harvest. Yield of healthy okra fruit were recorded periodically at and when ready to harvest from each sectors separately. Fourteen pickings were made and data on okra fruit yield were summed up for further statistical analysis.

## Results and Discussions

### First spray

The periodic data on leafhopper population was recorded after first spray during *khariif*, 2015 are presented in Table 1.

### Independent effect of insecticides (I)

The leafhopper population was uniform in all the treatments before spray as treatment difference was non-significant. All the insecticides were significantly superior to untreated control up to 7 DAS. At 1 DAS, the highest effect was observed with the application of flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% as it recorded significantly the lowest (0.71 leafhoppers/leaf) leafhopper population (Table 1). All the insecticidal treatments differed

significantly with each other. Dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% also recorded lower (2.56) population of leafhopper. Thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (2.34) was found equally effective as dimethoate 30 EC 0.03% (3.62) in suppressing the leafhopper incidence in okra. More or less similar trend was observed at 3 and 5 DAS. At 7 DAS, flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% (0.33) was found significantly superior but remained at par with dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% (0.44). The second better treatment was thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (1.69) followed by dimethoate 30 EC at 0.03% (4.84). Among the treatments, the highest (4.84) population of leafhopper was observed in control plots.

Pooled over periods of mean data (Table 1) indicated that significantly the highest effectiveness was observed with application of flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% and recorded the lowest (0.97 leafhoppers/leaf) population. Dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% (1.24) was also effective in reducing leafhopper population in okra by registered second best treatment. Thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (2.74) and dimethoate 30 EC 0.03% (2.81) were equally effective in reducing leafhopper population. Of the treatments, the highest (4.74) population of leafhopper was noticed in control plots.

### **Independent effect of fertilizer (N)**

The effect of nitrogenous fertilizer at different doses on incidence of leafhopper is depicted in Table 1. A uniform population of pest was observed before application of treatments as differences among the treatments was non-significant. At 1 DAS, minimum population (2.42 leafhoppers/leaf) of leafhopper was observed in control (No fertilizer) treatment which was at par with N<sub>1</sub> (50 kg/ha) *i.e.* 2.70. The highest dose of fertilizer, N<sub>3</sub> (150 kg/ha) had 3.42 leafhoppers per leaf and was at par with recommended dose, N<sub>2</sub> (100 kg/ha). At 3

DAS, minimum population of leafhopper (1.90) was recorded in N<sub>0</sub>. The other treatments N<sub>1</sub>, N<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>3</sub> were at par with each other and recorded 2.96, 2.36 and 2.74, respectively. More or less similar trend was observed at 5 and 7 DAS.

The pooled data over periods clearly indicated that minimum population of leafhopper was observed in N<sub>0</sub> (1.66 leafhoppers/leaf) and it was at par with N<sub>2</sub> (100 kg/ha). The highest dose of nitrogenous fertilizer (N<sub>3</sub>) showed 2.49 leafhopper population. However, it was at par with N<sub>1</sub> (50 kg/ha).

### **Interactive effect of insecticide and fertilizer (I × N)**

The interactive effect of insecticides with different dose of nitrogenous fertilizer (I × N) on okra crop did not show any significant impact on population of leafhopper as the results are non-significant (Table 1).

### **Second spray**

The periodical data on leafhopper, *A. biguttula biguttula* recorded during *kharif*, 2015 after second spray are presented in Table 2.

### **Independent effect of insecticides (I)**

The population of leafhopper was homogenous in all the treatments before spray as treatment difference was non-significance. All the evaluated insecticides were significantly superior to untreated control up to 7 DAS. At 1 DAS, significantly the lowest (1.87 leafhoppers/leaf) population of leafhopper was recorded in plots treated with flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% and found most effective insecticidal treatment. Dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% and thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% were equally effective in reducing leafhopper population as they are at par with

each other by registering 2.78 and 3.07, respectively. Dimethoate 30 EC 0.03% was found least effective against leafhoppers in okra. Of the treatments, control plots registered the highest (5.45) number of leafhopper. At 3 DAS, significantly the lowest (0.48) leafhopper incidence was observed in plots treated with flonicamid 50 WP 0.015%.

All the treatments differ significantly with each other. Dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% (1.43) proved to be second best insecticide followed by thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (2.06). Dimethoate 30 EC 0.03% (3.03) was the least effective among different insecticidal treatments. The untreated control plots recorded higher (5.45) leafhopper population in okra. At 5 DAS, among the evaluated insecticides, significantly higher (0.42) effect was recorded in flonicamid 50 WP 0.015%. Dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% (1.09) and thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (1.11) were equally effective in reducing leafhopper population as they were at par with each other. Dimethoate 30 EC at 0.03% proved to be least effective as it recorded higher (1.60) leafhopper population on okra. The untreated control plot registered the higher (5.40) number of leafhoppers. More or less, same trend of treatment effect was observed at 7 DAS.

Pooled over periods of mean data (Table 2) indicated that the lowest (0.71 leafhoppers/leaf) leafhopper population was found in the plots treated with flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% (0.71) and proved to be most effective among all the evaluated insecticides. Dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% and thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% were found equally effective in suppressing the leafhopper population in okra. Dimethoate 30 EC at 0.03% was found less effective insecticide as it recorded significantly higher (2.32) leafhopper population.

### **Independent effect of fertilizer (N)**

The data on impact of nitrogenous fertilizer at different doses on incidence of leafhopper are presented in Table 2. All doses of nitrogenous fertilizer did not show any significant effect on population built up of leafhoppers.

### **Interactive effect of insecticide and fertilizer (I × N)**

The interactive effect of insecticides with different dose of nitrogenous fertilizer on okra crop showed non-significant impact on population of *A. biguttula biguttula* as per the data presented in Table 2.

The interaction I × P was found significant indicating the inconsistency performance of insecticides at different periods.

Like-wise, interaction N × P was found non-significant which indicates the consistency performance of various doses of nitrogenous fertilizer at varying periods on leafhopper in okra.

### **Third spray**

The periodical data on leafhopper *A. biguttula biguttula* recorded during *kharif*, 2015, 3<sup>rd</sup> sprays are presented in Table 3.

### **Independent effect of insecticides (I)**

The leafhopper population was uniform in all the treatments before spray as treatment difference was non-significant. At 1 DAS, the highest effect was observed with application of flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% as it recorded significantly the lowest (1.78 leafhoppers/leaf) leafhopper population (Table 3). Dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008%, thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% and dimethoate 30 EC 0.03% were at par and registered 3.70, 3.95 and 3.77, respectively.

**Table.1** Impact of insecticides and nitrogenous fertilizer on incidence of leafhopper, *A. biguttula biguttula* in okra after 1<sup>st</sup> spray (*khariif*, 2015)

Treatment		Before spray	Leafhoppers/leaf days after spray (DAS)				Mean
Insecticides (I)			1 DAS	3 DAS	5 DAS	7 DAS	
I <sub>0</sub>		2.32 (4.88)	2.26d (4.61)	2.28d (4.70)	2.30d (4.79)	2.31c (4.84)	2.29d (4.74)
I <sub>1</sub>		2.22 (4.43)	2.03c (3.62)	1.96c (3.34)	1.75c (2.56)	1.48b (1.69)	1.82c (2.81)
I <sub>2</sub>		2.36 (5.07)	2.20cd (4.34)	1.98c (3.42)	1.62c (2.12)	1.38b (1.40)	1.80c (2.74)
I <sub>3</sub>		2.29 (4.74)	1.10a (0.71)	0.95a (0.40)	0.92a (0.35)	0.91a (0.33)	0.97a (0.44)
I <sub>4</sub>		2.24 (4.52)	1.75b (2.56)	1.43b (1.54)	1.12b (0.75)	0.97a (0.44)	1.32b (1.24)
S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		0.09 NS	0.06 0.18	0.06 0.18	0.04 0.13	0.06 0.18	0.05 0.16
C. V. %		13.10	10.39	11.82	9.59	14.43	20.91
I × P	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.03 0.10
Nitrogenous fertilizer (N)		Before spray	Leafhoppers/leaf days after spray (DAS)				Mean
			1 DAS	3 DAS	5 DAS	7 DAS	
N <sub>0</sub>		2.06 (3.74)	1.71a (2.42)	1.55a (1.90)	1.38a (1.40)	1.26ab (1.09)	1.47a (1.66)
N <sub>1</sub>		2.49 (5.70)	2.06c (3.74)	1.86b (2.96)	1.64b (2.19)	1.49c (1.72)	1.76c (2.60)
N <sub>2</sub>		2.23 (4.47)	1.79ab (2.70)	1.69ab (2.36)	1.53ab (1.84)	1.38bc (1.40)	1.60ab (2.06)
N <sub>3</sub>		2.37 (5.12)	1.98bc (3.42)	1.80b (2.74)	1.62b (2.12)	1.15a (0.82)	1.73bc (2.49)
S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		0.08 NS	0.07 0.19	0.06 0.17	0.06 0.16	0.05 0.14	0.05 0.15
C. V. %		12.97	13.73	13.4	13.69	13.60	24.24
N × P	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.03 NS
I × N	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.12 NS

Note:

1. Figures in parentheses are retransformed values; those outside are  $\sqrt{X + 0.5}$  value
2. Treatment means with letter (s) in common are not significant at 5% level of significance
3. Insecticide: I<sub>0</sub>= Control (No spray), I<sub>1</sub>= Dimethoate 30 EC, I<sub>2</sub>= Thiamethoxam 25 WG, I<sub>3</sub>= Flonicamid 50 WP and I<sub>4</sub>= Dinotefuran 20 SG
4. Fertilizer: N<sub>0</sub>= 0 kg/ha, N<sub>1</sub>=50 kg/ha, N<sub>2</sub>=100 kg/ha and N<sub>3</sub>=150 kg/ha
5. Okra variety: Gujarat Anand Okra-5

**Table.2** Impact of insecticides and nitrogenous fertilizer on incidence of leafhopper, *A. biguttula biguttula* in okra after 2<sup>nd</sup> spray (kharif, 2015)

Treatment		Before spray	Leafhoppers/leaf days after spray (DAS)				Mean
Insecticides (I)			1 DAS	3 DAS	5 DAS	7 DAS	
I <sub>0</sub>		2.43 (5.40)	2.44d (5.45)	2.44e (5.45)	2.43d (5.40)	2.45d (5.50)	2.44d (5.45)
I <sub>1</sub>		2.49 (5.70)	2.24c (4.52)	1.88d (3.03)	1.45c (1.60)	1.16c (0.85)	1.68c (2.32)
I <sub>2</sub>		2.51 (5.80)	1.89b (3.07)	1.60c (2.06)	1.27b (1.11)	1.05bc (0.60)	1.45b (1.60)
I <sub>3</sub>		2.46 (5.55)	1.54a (1.87)	0.99a (0.48)	0.96a (0.42)	0.92a (0.35)	1.10a (0.71)
I <sub>4</sub>		2.39 (5.21)	1.81b (2.78)	1.39b (1.43)	1.26b (1.09)	1.02ab (0.54)	1.37b (1.38)
S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		0.08 NS	0.06 0.18	0.05 0.15	0.06 0.17	0.04 0.13	0.04 0.14
C. V. %		10.87	10.25	9.97	12.45	10.87	18.29
I × P	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.03 0.10
Nitrogenous fertilizer (N)		Before spray	Leafhoppers/leaf days after spray (DAS)				Mean
			1 DAS	3 DAS	5 DAS	7 DAS	
N <sub>0</sub>		2.49 (5.70)	2.00 (3.50)	1.68 (2.32)	1.51 (1.78)	1.34 (1.30)	1.63 (2.16)
N <sub>1</sub>		2.46 (5.55)	1.94 (3.26)	1.65 (2.22)	1.47 (1.66)	1.33 (1.27)	1.60 (2.06)
N <sub>2</sub>		2.43 (5.40)	1.97 (3.38)	1.62 (2.12)	1.42 (1.52)	1.26 (1.09)	1.57 (1.96)
N <sub>3</sub>		2.44 (5.45)	2.02 (3.58)	1.68 (2.32)	1.49 (1.72)	1.35 (1.32)	1.64 (2.19)
S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		0.08 NS	0.07 NS	0.04 NS	0.03 NS	0.03 NS	0.04 NS
C. V. %		14.27	12.9	9.79	8.14	8.79	17.00
N × P	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.03 NS
I × N	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.08 NS

**Note:**

1. Figures in parentheses are retransformed values; those outside are  $\sqrt{X + 0.5}$  value
2. Treatment means with letter (s) in common are not significant at 5% level of significance
3. Insecticide: I<sub>0</sub>= Control (No spray), I<sub>1</sub>= Dimethoate 30 EC, I<sub>2</sub>= Thiamethoxam 25 WG, I<sub>3</sub>= Flonicamid 50 WP and I<sub>4</sub>= Dinotefuran 20 SG
4. Fertilizer: N<sub>0</sub>= 0 kg/ha, N<sub>1</sub>=50 kg/ha, N<sub>2</sub>=100 kg/ha and N<sub>3</sub>=150 kg/ha
5. Okra variety: Gujarat Anand Okra-5

**Table.3** Impact of insecticides and nitrogenous fertilizer on incidence of leafhopper, *A. biguttula biguttula* in okra after 3<sup>rd</sup> spray (kharif, 2015)

Treatment		Before spray	Leafhoppers/leaf days after spray (DAS)				Mean
Insecticides (I)			1 DAS	3 DAS	5 DAS	7 DAS	
I <sub>0</sub>		2.40 (5.26)	2.40c (5.26)	2.42c (5.36)	2.44d (5.45)	2.21c (4.38)	2.37c (5.12)
I <sub>1</sub>		2.39 (5.21)	2.09b (3.87)	1.93b (3.22)	1.53bc (1.84)	1.27b (1.11)	1.71b (2.42)
I <sub>2</sub>		2.33 (4.93)	2.11b (3.95)	1.91b (3.15)	1.62c (2.12)	1.22b (0.99)	1.71b (2.42)
I <sub>3</sub>		2.30 (4.79)	1.51a (1.78)	1.20a (0.94)	0.95a (0.40)	0.92a (0.35)	1.15a (0.82)
I <sub>4</sub>		2.29 (4.74)	2.05b (3.70)	1.78b (2.67)	1.32b (1.24)	1.04a (0.58)	1.55b (1.90)
S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		0.08 NS	0.07 0.22	0.08 0.24	0.08 0.24	0.06 0.18	0.07 0.22
C. V. %		11.50	12.02	14.17	17.22	14.95	27.85
I × P	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.03 0.08
Nitrogenous fertilizer (N)		Before spray	Leafhoppers/leaf days after spray (DAS)				Mean
			1 DAS	3 DAS	5 DAS	7 DAS	
N <sub>0</sub>		2.22a (4.43)	1.94ab (3.26)	1.77a (2.63)	1.50a (1.75)	1.30 (1.19)	1.63a (2.16)
N <sub>1</sub>		2.23a (4.47)	1.89a (3.07)	1.73a (2.49)	1.48a (1.69)	1.29 (1.16)	1.60a (2.06)
N <sub>2</sub>		2.38ab (5.16)	2.09bc (3.87)	1.87ab (3.00)	1.60ab (2.06)	1.35 (1.32)	1.73ab (2.49)
N <sub>3</sub>		2.54b (5.95)	2.21c (4.38)	2.02b (3.58)	1.71b (2.42)	1.39 (1.43)	1.83b (2.85)
S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		0.08 0.22	0.07 0.20	0.06 0.17	0.06 0.16	0.05 NS	0.05 0.15
C. V. %		12.43	12.86	12.51	13.68	13.07	23.92
N × P	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.03 0.04
I × N	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%						0.12 NS

**Note:**

1. Figures in parentheses are retransformed values; those outside are  $\sqrt{X + 0.5}$  value.
2. Treatment means with letter (s) in common are not significant at 5% level of significance
3. Insecticide: I<sub>0</sub>= Control (No spray), I<sub>1</sub>= Dimethoate 30 EC, I<sub>2</sub>= Thiamethoxam 25 WG, I<sub>3</sub>= Flonicamid 50 WP and I<sub>4</sub>= Dinotefuran 20 SG
4. Fertilizer: N<sub>0</sub>= 0 kg/ha, N<sub>1</sub>=50 kg/ha, N<sub>2</sub>=100 kg/ha and N<sub>3</sub>=150 kg/ha
5. Okra variety: Gujarat Anand Okra-5

**Table.4** Impact of insecticides and nitrogenous fertilizer on incidence of leafhopper, *A. biguttula biguttula* in okra (pooled over sprays) during (kharif, 2015)

Treatment Insecticides (I)		Leafhoppers/ leaf	Nitrogenous fertilizer (N)		Leafhoppers/ leaf
I <sub>0</sub>		2.36d (5.09)	N <sub>0</sub>		1.58 (1.99)
I <sub>1</sub>		1.74c (2.52)	N <sub>1</sub>		1.65 (2.23)
I <sub>2</sub>		1.65c (2.23)	N <sub>2</sub>		1.63 (2.16)
I <sub>3</sub>		1.07a (0.65)	N <sub>3</sub>		1.73 (2.50)
I <sub>4</sub>		1.41b (1.49)			
S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		0.07 0.21	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		0.05NS
C. V. %		22.88	C. V. %		22.08
I × P	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%	0.04 0.13	N × P	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%	0.02NS
S × I	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%	0.05 0.16	S × N	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%	0.050.13
			I × N	I × N	0.06NS

**Note:**

1. Figures in parentheses are retransformed values; those outside are  $\sqrt{X + 0.5}$  value.
2. Treatment means with letter (s) in common are not significant at 5% level of significance
3. Insecticide: I<sub>0</sub>= Control (No spray), I<sub>1</sub>= Dimethoate 30 EC, I<sub>2</sub>= Thiamethoxam 25 WG, I<sub>3</sub>= Flonicamid 50 WP and I<sub>4</sub>= Dinotefuran 20 SG
4. Fertilizer: N<sub>0</sub>= 0 kg/ha, N<sub>1</sub>=50 kg/ha, N<sub>2</sub>=100 kg/ha and N<sub>3</sub>=150 kg/ha
5. Okra variety: Gujarat Anand Okra-5

**Table.5** Impact of nitrogenous fertilizer and insecticides on fruit yield of okra (kharif, 2015)

Insecticides		Yield (q/ha)	Fertilizer	Yield (q/ha)
I <sub>0</sub>		42.47d	N <sub>0</sub>	52.95b
I <sub>1</sub>		53.63c	N <sub>1</sub>	56.25b
I <sub>2</sub>		61.19b	N <sub>2</sub>	61.82a
I <sub>3</sub>		71.96a	N <sub>3</sub>	62.37a
I <sub>4</sub>		62.69b		
<b>ANOVA</b>				
S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%		2.28 7.11	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%	1.72 4.97
C.V %		13.53	C.V. %	11.42
I x N	S. Em. ± C. D. at 5%	3.85 NS		

**Note:**

1. Insecticide: I<sub>0</sub>= Control (No spray), I<sub>1</sub>= Dimethoate 30 EC, I<sub>2</sub>= Thiamethoxam 25 WG, I<sub>3</sub>= Flonicamid 50 WP and I<sub>4</sub>= Dinotefuran 20 SG
2. Fertilizer: N<sub>0</sub>= 0 kg/ha, N<sub>1</sub>=50 kg/ha, N<sub>2</sub>=100 kg/ha and N<sub>3</sub>=150 kg/ha
3. Okra variety: Gujarat Anand Okra-5



More or less, similar trend was also found at 3 DAS. The leafhopper population recorded at 5 DAS showed that significantly the lowest (0.40) population was recorded in the plots treated with flonicamid 50 WP 0.015%. The dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% (1.24) was at par with dimethoate 30 EC 0.03% (1.84) followed by thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (2.12). The highest 5.45 leafhopper population was observed in control (no spray) plots. At 7 DAS, flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% (0.35) was found significantly superior over the tested insecticides. However, it was at par with dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% (0.58). Thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (0.99) and dimethoate 30 EC 0.03% (1.11) were at par and stood second next in order for the control of leafhopper in okra. The highest (4.38) leafhopper population was observed in control treatment (no spray).

Pooled over period of mean data (Table 3) indicated that flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% exhibited significantly superior than all the tested insecticides by recording the lowest (0.82 leafhoppers/leaf) population of leafhopper. Dinotefuran 20 SG at 0.008% (1.90), thiamethoxam 25 WP at 0.01% (2.42) and dimethoate 30 EC at 0.03% (2.42) were statistically at par with each other. The highest (5.12) leafhopper population was observed in control plots.

### **Independent effect of fertilizer (N)**

The data on impact of nitrogenous fertilizer at different doses on incidence of leafhopper are depicted in Table 3. The leafhopper activity was found uniform in all the treatments before treatment as ANOVA was non-significant. At 1 DAS, minimum population was observed in N<sub>1</sub> (3.07 leafhoppers/leaf) and it was at par N<sub>0</sub> (3.26) and N<sub>2</sub> (3.87) which were at par with N<sub>3</sub> (4.38). At 3 DAS, minimum population was observed in N<sub>0</sub> (2.63) and it was at par with N<sub>1</sub> (2.49) and N<sub>2</sub> (3.00). The higher

population was recorded in N<sub>3</sub> (3.58). At 5 DAS, more or less similar trend was observed. Non-significant effect of nitrogenous fertilizer was observed at 7 DAS.

The periodic data on leafhopper were also pooled and are presented in Table 3. Significantly lower (2.06 leafhoppers/leaf) population was recorded in N<sub>1</sub> i.e. 50 kg/ha. However, it was at par with control (no fertilizer) and N<sub>2</sub> (100 kg/ha). The highest population (2.82) was recorded in the highest dose of nitrogen (N<sub>3</sub>). Although, it was at par with (N<sub>2</sub>).

### **Interactive effect of insecticide and fertilizer (I × N)**

The interactive effect of insecticides with different doses of nitrogenous fertilizer on okra crop showed (Table 3) non-significant impact on population of *A. biguttula biguttula*.

### **Pooled over sprays**

Pooled over sprays data presented in Table 4 indicated that flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% recorded the lowest (0.65 leafhoppers/leaf) leafhopper population than rest of the insecticides. The second best insecticide was dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% and recorded 1.49 per leaf. Thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (2.23) and dimethoate 30 EC 0.03% (2.52) also showed better effectiveness against leafhopper population by remaining at par with each other. The highest (5.09) leafhopper population was observed in control plots.

Misra (2002) reported that imidacloprid and thiamethoxam both used at 25 g a.i./ha proved significantly superior in controlling aphid and leafhopper in okra. Flonicamid was found most effective insecticide against major sap sucking insects like aphid, leafhopper, whitefly, scales, thrips and mealybugs on

vegetable and potatoes (Kodandaram *et al.*, 2010). Thiamethoxam 20 g a.i/ha and fipronil 50 g a.i/ha effectively reduced the sucking pests *viz.*, leafhopper, whitefly and red spider mite in okra (Mohansundaram and Sharma, 2011). Thus, the present findings are in agreement with the earlier reports.

The pooled data (Table 4) revealed that different doses of nitrogenous fertilizer had non-significant impact on population development of leafhopper. The interaction between different dose of nitrogenous fertilizer and insecticides ( $I \times N$ ) could not impose any significant effect on leafhopper population.

The population of leafhopper (*A. devastans*) was significantly increased with increasing nitrogen levels (Razaq *et al.*, 2014). Baloch *et al.*, (2013) results showed that the highest population of leafhopper ( $1.05 \pm 0.66$ ) was recorded on okra plants treated with Diammonium Phosphate followed by urea + DAP, control (No fertilizers) and urea alone. Thus, present findings are more or less similar to previous findings.

## **Yield**

### **Impact of insecticides (I)**

Green okra fruit was recorded in all treatments and control during *kharif* 2015 and are presented in Table 5. All the treatments registered significantly higher yield of green okra fruits than control. Plots treated with flonicamid 50 WP 0.015% yielded significantly the highest (71.96 q/ha) and proved to be most effective. Dinotefuran 20 SG 0.008% and thiamethoxam 25 WP 0.01% (61.19 q/ha) also yielded higher and differed significantly with each other. Dimethoate 30 EC at 0.03% produced significantly the lowest fruit yield (53.63 q/ha) and proved to be least effective. Control treatment (no

spray) recorded the lowest fruit yield (42.47 q/ha).

### **Impact of nitrogenous fertilizer (N)**

The data on impact of nitrogenous fertilizer as independent variable on green okra fruit yield are depicted in Table 5. The highest green okra fruit yield (62.37 q/ha) was recorded in  $N_3$  (150 kg N/ha) which was statistically at par with  $N_2$  (61.83 q/ha). Among the different doses of nitrogenous fertilizers,  $N_1$  recorded 56.25 q/ha green fruit okra yield and was statistically at par with green fruit yield of okra in  $N_0$  (52.95 q/ha).

### **Interaction of different dose of nitrogenous fertilizer and insecticides ( $I \times N$ )**

The interaction effect of insecticides and nitrogenous fertilizer showed non-significant results. Scanty information is available so far effect of nitrogenous fertilizer on the effectiveness of insecticides against leafhopper is concerned in okra crop. Echezona *et al.*, (2010) reported that the higher okra fruit yield was recorded by combining of 1.0 kg/ha carbofuran with 80 kg N/ha, while, the best economic return was achieved by combining of 0.5 kg/ha carbofuran with 80 kg N/ha. Under the present investigation, more or less similar trend was found. Sylvester *et al.*, (2014) concluded that complementary application of poultry manure (10 tones/ha) and NPK (300 kg/ha) favoured okra growth and yield, most in terms of quantity and quality and decreased the infestation of pest. The contradictory results noticed might be attributed due to poultry manure given as NPK.

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