

Original Research Article

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Evaluation of Different Insecticides against Onion Thrips in Onion Seed Production

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

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A field experiments was conducted at NHRDF, Regional Research Station, Chitegaon, Nashik in three consecutive years during *rabi* 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 on onion variety NHRDF Red-2 for the management of onion thrips through basal application and spray of different insecticides. The soil application of the treatments was given before planting and spray was started at 10 DAP after the appearance of thrips and subsequently sprays were given at ten days interval. The results showed that, significantly lowest mean thrips population (17. 21 nymphs/plant) and highest seed yield (4.91q/ha) were recorded in basal application of Chlorantraniliprole 0.4% @ 10Kg/ha and spray of Fipronil @ 0.1%, Carbosulfan @ 0.2%, Profenofos @ 0.1% and Spinosad @ 0.03%. The highest cost benefit ratio (1:4.19) was also recorded in the same treatment.

Introduction

Onion is a cross pollinated crop and more than 90% pollination is done by honey bee. *Thrips tabaci* is the most important insect attacking onion seed production crop and also spreading viral diseases. Onion thrips (*Thrips tabaci* Lindeman) is the most important pest of onion (*Allium cepa* L.) and cause significant yield losses globally (Lewis, 1997). The nymphs and adult of onion thrips feed leaves by piercing and rasping the leaf tissues and causes lengthwise, silvery stippling or blotching on the onion leaves, resulting in the loss of chlorophyll and reduced photosynthetic efficiency (Boateng *et al.*, 2014). Onion is an

important export oriented vegetable crop among the cultivated *Alliums* in India. It is grown in *rabi*, *kharif* and late *kharif* season in India with the maximum area under cultivation covered during *rabi* season. India is the second largest onion producing country in the world.

Thrips (*Thrips tabaci* Lindeman) is a regular and potential pest of onion and cause considerable loss as high as 90% in quality and yield (Gupta *et al.*, 1984). Failure to control this pest by timely and effective means causes considerable damage and results in immense economic loss by remarkably reducing yield (Anonymous, 2000; Juan,

2002). Confidor 200 SL (Imidachlorprid), Tracer 240 SC (Spinosad) and Thiodan 35SC were found effective against onion thrips in Pakistan (Ullah *et al.*, 2010).

To find out the suitable management of thrips and avoid the losses caused by thrips in onion seed crop, The field experiment was conducted at National Horticultural Research and Development Foundation, Regional Research Station Chitegaon, Nashik during three consecutive years in *rabi* 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 on onion variety NHRDF Red-2 through basal application and spray of different insecticides for thrips management.

Materials and Methods

The field experiment was conducted at National Horticultural Research and Development Foundation, Regional Research Station, Chitegaon, Nashik during *rabi*, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 seasons. Bulbs of onion variety NHRDF Red-2 were planted in a bed size of 5.0 m x 3.0 m at 45cm X 30cm spacing. Randomized Block Design with 3 replication was followed. The treatments evaluated were T1 (Basal application of Phorate 10G@ 15Kg/ha + Spray of Fipronil @0.1%, Carbosulfan @0.2%, Profenofos@0.1% and Spinosad @0.03%, T2 (Basal application of Cartaphydrochloride 4.0% @25Kg/ha + Spray of Fipronil @0.1%, Carbosulfan @0.2%, Profenofos@0.1% and Spinosad @0.03%, T3(Basal application of Carbofuran 3G@30kg/ha + spray of (Fipronil @0.1%, Carbosulfan @0.2%, Profenofos@0.1% and spinosad @0.03%, T4 (Soil application of Fipronil 0.3G@25Kg/ha + spray of (Fipronil @0.1%, Carbosulfan @0.2%, Profenofos@0.1% and Spinosad @0.03%, T5 (Basal application of Imidachlorprid 0.5G @20kg/ha + spray of (Fipronil @0.1%, Carbosulfan @0.2%, Profenofos @0.1% and Spinosad @0.03%, T6(Basal application of Chlorantraniliprole

0.4% @ 10Kg/ha + Spray of (Fipronil@0.1%, Carbosulfan @0.2%, Profenofos@0.1% and Spinosad @0.03%) and T7 (control). The soil application of treatments were given before planting and spray was started at 10 DAP after the appearance of the thrips and a total of 9 sprays were given at 10 days interval. The insecticide sprays were given in evening time to avoid on dry toxic effect honey bee. All other agronomical practices were performed as per need uniformly in all the treatments. The picking of umbel was started after attaining the maturity of seed and a total 4-5 pickings were done during cropping period. The data on thrips (Nymph) population were counted at the stalk as well as umbel in 10 plants marked randomly selected plants in each treatment at 10 days interval before each spray.

Results and Discussion

The data presented in table 1 revealed that thrips population at different stages of growth of crop and seed yield were influenced significantly due to different treatments. The thrips population did not follow any definite trend at different stages of growth, a mixed trend of increasing and decreasing the thrips population was observed. Significantly lowest mean thrips population (17.21 nymphs/plant) were recorded in T6 (Basal application of Chlorantraniliprole 0.4% @ 10Kg/ha + Foliar spray of Fipronil @ 0.1%, Carbosulfan @ 0.2%, Profenofos @ 0.1% and Spinosad @ 0.03%). The highest seed yield (4091 q/ha) and C: B ratio (1:4.19) was also recorded in treatment T6.

Pandey *et al.*, (2013) recorded that lowest thrips population and highest bulb yield with highest cost benefit ratio by applying fipronil. The other workers also reported that fipronil and imidachlorprid reduced the thrips damage severity and increased the onion bulb yield (Ullah *et al.*, 2010; Gachu *et al.*, 2012).

Table.1 Evaluation of different insecticides against thrips on onion seed production at NHRDF, RRS, Nashik (pooled data of rabi 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16)

Treatments	Thrips Population (nymphs/plant)										Overall mean thrips population	Seed yield(q/ha)	C: B Ratio
	10DAP	20DAP	30DAP	40DAP	50DAP	60DAP	70DAP	80DAP	90DAP				
T1	27.42	20.33	18.62	16.64	28.54	26.22	32.69	23.62	20.49	20.70	4.13	1:2.68	
T2	26.36	18.60	23.91	15.71	30.14	24.11	33.47	23.87	19.26	20.94	4.17	1:2.74	
T3	25.47	22.69	27.22	16.03	31.13	26.29	34.40	23.27	17.29	21.55	4.20	1:2.73	
T4	23.67	19.16	15.29	15.20	31.91	24.60	31.24	22.56	23.67	20.31	4.29	1:2.95	
T5	27.40	18.07	20.84	13.73	31.22	22.58	29.53	21.16	16.21	19.33	4.53	1:3.48	
T6	24.47	16.27	21.82	13.69	26.7	19.38	23.58	16.11	11.93	17.21	4.91	1:4.19	
T7	49.93	53.89	80.39	42.20	66.60	59.60	65.34	35.91	48.66	44.75	2.83	-	
S.Em±	1.98	1.52	2.66	1.42	2.97	1.78	3.24	1.38	1.52	0.73	0.09	-	
CD at 5%	4.01	3.09	5.39	2.89	6.02	3.6	6.57	2.8	3.09	1.48	0.18	-	

The finding of present study are in conformity with the earlier results obtained by Patel *et al.*, 2001 and Noor, 2001 who found Profenophos was may effective against many sap feeding insects such as onion thrips and Chilli thrips.

Similarly, Lazano and kilchher (1998) reported that Spinosad may also be used for controlling thrips under field conditions.

The farmers are extensively and successfully using contact and synthetic insecticides and also synthetic pyrethroides for controlling the pest.

However, repeated application of same group of chemicals is not a desirable practice as this could lead to undesirable resistance problems.

Based on 3 years study on onion variety NHRDF Red-2, it could be concluded that the basal application of Chlorantraniliprole 0.4% @ 10kg/ha and subsequently sequential sprays of Fipronil @ 0.1%, Carbosulfan @ 0.2%, Profenofos @ 0.1% and Spinosad @ 0.03% at 10 days interval is effective for managing of thrips and increasing the yield of onion seed with highest cost benefit ratio (1:4.19) at Nashik, Maharashtra.

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