Studies on Efficacy of Biopesticides and Neem Based Products against Pink Stem Borer in Finger Millet

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ABSTRACT

The efficacy of biopesticides, neem based products and cartap hydrochloride 50% SP were evaluated against pink stem borer, *Sesamia inferens* (Walker) infesting finger millet under Randomized Block Design in the year *Rabi* 2020 at Agricultural College Farm, Naira. Among the different biopesticides, *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* @ 2 g/l and *Metarrhizium anisopliae* @ 5 g/l were effective in managing ragi pink borer next to Cartap hydrochloride@ 2 g/l. The maximum grain yield was obtained from cartap hydrochloride 50% SP (30.68 q/ha) followed by *Metarrhizium anisopliae* (24.45 q/ha), *Beauveria bassiana* (23.60 q/ha), azadirachtin 10000 ppm (22.05 q/ha), azadirachtin 3000 ppm (20.65 q/ha), NSKE 5% (20.20 q/ha) and azadirachtin 300 ppm (19.35 q/ha) which are significantly superior over untreated control (14.15 q/ha).The performance of the botanicals remained the same all along the period of experimentation where azadirachtin 10000 ppm was followed by azadirachtin 3000 ppm, NSKE 5% and azadirachtin 300 ppm.

Keywords: *Bacillus thuringiensisvar.kurstaki, Beauveria bassiana and azadirachtin, Cartap hydrochloride 50%SP, Metarrhizium anisopliae and Pink stem borer.*