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Press Release

Management of Mango leaf webber

(Revised version)

Lucknow, 27-06-2012 : Mango leaf Webber (*Orthaga euadrusalis* Walker) has become a serious pest of mango in northern India of late . Its infestation starts from April and continues up to December. Leaf Webber incidence now has already started in mango orchards of Malihabad mango belt which is expected to increase further due to favourable weather conditions that prevail during rainy season. The incidence may further increase this year as in the previous year, proper pest management practices were not followed by orchardists. Timely management of this insect pest is crucial to save the mango crop of the coming year. Immediately after the harvest of mango fruits, management of this pest is one of the most important orchard operations to be adopted by the orchardists.

Eggs of leaf Webber moth are laid by the female on mango leaves which hatch in a week's time. First instars larvae feed on leaves by scrapping the surface and from second instars onwards larvae start webbing the leaves and feed on entire leaves leaving behind the midrib and veins. Full grown caterpillar is brownish blue with whitish striation dorsally. The caterpillars fall with a sudden jerk. There are five larval instars and larval period vary between 15 to 30 days depending upon weather conditions. They pupate on the leaves usually within the web, however the last generation caterpillars in December-January secrete a thread by which they descend on to the ground for pupating in the soil. The pupal period varies from 5-15 days depending upon temperature. Densely planted orchards have higher infestation than the normal spaced and canopy managed orchards.

Management

- Pruning of infested shoots and burning them helps to reduce the pest population.
- Removal of leaf webs by leaf web removing device developed by CISH, Lucknow and burning them helps in reducing the pest population
- Spray of lambda-cyhalothrin 0.005 % (1 ml / lit of water) controls the pest



Mango Leaf webber Infested shoots



Mango Leaf Webber



*Web Removing Device developed
by CISH, Lucknow*

For further details, please contact **Director, Central institute for Subtropical Horticulture, Rehmankhara, PO Kakori, Lucknow** or scientists of the Institute over Institute's Media Resource Centre's 'Phone-in-live facility' on telephone number 0522-2841082 on every Friday between 10:30 am and 4:00 pm.

Issued in public interest

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