



E-ISSN: 2278-4136  
P-ISSN: 2349-8234  
JPP 2019; SP5: 377-379

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(Special Issue- 5)

International Conference on

“Food Security through Agriculture & Allied Sciences”

(May 27-29, 2019)

## Efficacy of botanical insecticides against linseed budfly (*Dasyneura lini*, barnes) in linseed (*Linum usitatissimum* linn.)

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#### Abstract

The efficacy of botanical insecticides against linseed budfly, *Dasyneura lini* was experimented during Rabi season 2012-13 at the Student's Instructional Farm of Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Narendra Nagar (Kumarganj), Ayodhya (U.P.). The efficacy of budfly was recorded on variety Neelam at weekly intervals from germination till the harvest of the crop. There were eight treatments, namely Imidacloprid 17.8 SL @ 0.005%, Nimbecidine 0.25%, NSKE 5%, Neem leaf extract 5%, Green chilli extract 0.5%, Garlic extract 5%, Tulsi leaf extract 5% and Control. While application of Nimbecidine @ 0.25 % was found most effective as botanical insecticide followed by, NSKE @ 5 % was found as the least effective in controlling of bud fly infestation. On the basis of yield, the highest yield was obtained from Nimbecidine @ 0.25 % (14.29 q/ha<sup>-1</sup>) followed by 13.85 q/ha<sup>-1</sup> with NSKE @ 5 %. On the basis of overall performance of all the eight treatments Nimbecidine @ 0.25 % was isolated as the most effective botanical treatment for the control of the linseed budfly.

**Keywords:** Linseed budfly, Botanical Insecticides, Nimbecidine.

#### Introduction

Linseed, (*Linum usitatissimum* Linn.) is one of the oldest oilseed crop known as poor man's crop in India. It has got special importance amongst oilseed crop in rabi and has also been called as 'Alsi', 'Tisi', 'Mosina' and 'Arise' in India. Among all the insect of linseed, budfly is the most important insect and it affect the pods of linseed very drastically leads to reduce the crop yield. The crop is cultivated commercially for flax in the world. In India, Linseed is globally cultivated for oil production, fibers and flax. Fibres are used for the manufacture of linen and the stem yields fibres of good quality having high strength and beauty. It is utilized in making the best quality hand kerchiefs, materials of suits and dresses, bedding, napery, hand towels and other decorative articles (Gill, 1987) [6]. Every part of the linseed is utilized commercially either directly or after processing. About 80 per cent of the oil goes to industries in various forms, major portion of linseed is used as oil industries and a very small amount is used for edible purposes. The oil cake is a good feed for milch cattle and poultries and hence priced 5% higher than rapeseed-mustard cake. It is good in taste and contains 36 per cent protein, 85 per cent of which is digestible, it is also used as organic manure. It contains about 5 percent nitrogen, 1.4 percent phosphorus and 1.8 per cent potash. Among the oilseed crop raised during rabi, linseed is next in importance to rapeseed-mustard in areas as well as in production in technical oil production, it ranks first in the country. The oil being rich in linoleic acid (66% & above) and is a perfect drying oil. The oil content of linseed generally varies from 33 to 45 per cent. The total area, production and productivity under linseed in India is 2.628 lakh ha, 1.25 lakh tonnes, 477 kg/ha productivity, respectively (Anonymous, 2015) [3-4]. In Uttar Pradesh, the area under linseed is about 0.23 lakh ha and production was about 0.11 lakh tonnes with the highest productivity level of 475 kg/ha. (Anonymous, 2015) [3-4]. Linseed budfly is one of the most serious pests of linseed crop which occurs regularly as most destructive specific pest, not only on floral buds but also on leaf at the growing tips of the young plants. The extent of damage has been noticed from 13.6 to 75.8 per cent on flower

Buds (Deshmukh *et al.*, 1992, Jakhmola and Yadav, 1983, Sharma *et al.*, 1983) [12]. Insect-pest may affect the crop plants in various way and the information about infestation of insect during the life cycle and its appropriate dynamics helps in making suitable pest management strategies. Therefore, present study on population dynamics of linseed budfly was undertaken with the main object to identify the suitable insecticide against budfly.

### Material and Methods

The experiment was conducted during rabi 2012-13, at the Research Farm of Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Narendra Nagar (Kumarganj), Faizabad (U.P.). Climatic and edaphic conditions prevailing during the crop period have also been described at appropriate place. The trial was laid out in Randomized Block Design (RBD) with three replications. Cultivar Neelum was sown in a plot of 3x4.5m<sup>2</sup>. The treatments were applied on the basis of ETL of budfly (7% bud infestation). The required amount of insecticide was calculated by using the formula as follows:

$$\text{Litres of commercial formulation} = \frac{\text{Amount of spray required} \times \% \text{ spray concentration}}{\% \text{ active ingredient in the available insecticide}}$$

The volume of spray solution was diluted by mixing water @ 400 litre ha<sup>-1</sup>. All treatments were sprayed with the help of high volume Knapsack sprayer. The care was taken to avoid insecticidal drift from one plot to another plot by surrounding the plots with polythene sheets during spraying. Budfly population was recorded starting from initiation of flowering and treatments were applied at ETL. Data were recorded at one day before and three and seven days after treatments.

$$\text{Bud infestation (\%)} = \frac{\text{No. of infested buds}}{\text{Total no. of buds}} \times 100$$

Observations on per cent infestation were determined by counting the number of infested buds and total number of buds on ten randomly selected plants/plot in each treatment. The details of treatment have been presented in Table.1

**Table 1:** Details of treatments used for the management of linseed budfly during rabi season 2012-13.

S. No	Treatments	Formulation	Concentration	Source of availability
1.	T <sub>1</sub>	Imidacloprid 17.8 SL	0.005%	Excel crop care Ltd. Registered office: 184/87, Swami Vivekananda Road, Jogesh wari (West), Mumbai – 400 102, (Maharashtra), India
2.	T <sub>2</sub>	Nimbecidine	0.25%	M/s T Strains & Co. Ltd. 8/23-24, Race Course Road, Coimbatore, (Tamil Nadu) – 641 018
3.	T <sub>3</sub>	NSKE	5%	Prepared in laboratory
4.	T <sub>4</sub>	Neem leaf extract	5%	Prepared in laboratory
5.	T <sub>5</sub>	Green chilli extract	0.5%	Prepared in laboratory
6.	T <sub>6</sub>	Garlic extract	5%	Prepared in laboratory
7.	T <sub>7</sub>	Tulsi leaf extract	5%	Prepared in laboratory
8.	T <sub>8</sub>	Control		

### Results and discussion

The incidence of budfly was recorded as bud damage from second week of January and continued till last week of March during the year 2012-13 in variety Neelum. The bud damage varied from 0.51 per cent to 10.10 per cent. The maximum per cent damage was recorded in third week of March in variety Neelum.

### Efficacy of botanical insecticides against linseed budfly infestation

The population was homogeneous in the experimental plots at the time of application of insecticides on the crop three days after the spraying, all the treatments were found significantly superior over control (Table 2). Nimbecidine @ 0.25 performed better as botanical insecticide, followed by NSKE @5%, Green chilli extract @ 0.5%, Neem leaf extract @ 5%, Tulsi leaf extract @ 5% and Garlic extract @ 5% with 4.350, 5.080, 6.050, 6.060, 7.149 and 7.351 mean per cent bud damage, respectively. Nimbecidine were found significantly superior over other botanical treatments and were found significantly superior over control. Nimbecidine @ 0.25%, rank first as botanical insecticide with mean per cent infestation of budfly (5.020) followed by Neem seed kernel extract @ 5% with mean infestation of budfly (5.078). The efficacy of different treatments followed the order Green chilli extract @ 0.5% > Neem leaf extract @ 5% > Tulsi leaf extract @ 5% > Garlic extract @ 5% during rabi 2012-13. The volume of spray solution was diluted by mixing water @ 400 litre ha<sup>-1</sup>. All treatments were sprayed with the help of high volume Knapsack sprayer. The care was taken to avoid insecticidal drift from one plot to another plot by surrounding

the plots with polythene sheets during spraying. Nimbecidine were found significantly superior over other treatments and were found significantly superior over control. Malik, (2000) [11] and Kumar, (2005) [9] reported that the activity of bud fly was initiated in middle of February with its peak activity during 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> standard week. The incidence of *Dasyneura lini* Barnes was positively correlated with minimum and maximum temperature (0.110 and 0.490), respectively and negatively correlated with relative humidity (-0.590), rainfall (-0.319) and sunshine hours (-0.363). The infestation of budfly in different treatments was significantly lower as compared to control. Application of Nimbecidine @ 0.25 %, NSKE @ 5 %. Gave Similar observations were also reported by different coordinating centers of linseed (Anonymous, 2011) [2]. Lower infestation of linseed bud fly with application of Nimbecidine @ 0.25 %, was mainly due to effective control of bud fly as compared to rest of treatments. Ali *et al.*, (2002) studied the efficacy of bio products against linseed bud fly and found the Nimbecidine and neem seed kernel extract gave better results for the control of bud fly than other botanical insecticides. Application of Nimbecidine @ 0.25 %, produced significantly higher grain yield of linseed (14.29 q ha<sup>-1</sup>) followed by NSKE @ 5 % (13.85 q ha<sup>-1</sup>) respectively, it was due to effective control of bud fly. Gupta *et al.*, (2004) [7] studied the efficacy of Neem products three consecutive rabi season. Neem leaf extract (in cow urine), NSKE (in cow urine) and neem oil found that the incidence of budfly decreased and grain yield increased. The incidence of budfly was lowest in Neem oil (1 %) followed by NSKE (5 %), Neem oil (0.25 %) and NSKE (2 %) with increased grain yield. admixture of Neem oil (0.25 %), NSKE (5 %) further

reduced the incidence and increased the yield. On the basis of benefit cost ratio Nimbecidine @ 0.25 % was found most economical as it gave maximum net return of (6625 Rs. ha<sup>-1</sup>) and benefit, cost ratio of 1:14.09 followed by NSKE with benefit: cost ratio (1:6.94). Nimbecidine @ 0.25 % was found as the best bio-insecticide for controlling linseed bud fly with maximum yield (14.29 q ha<sup>-1</sup>) and therefore, it can be

recommended against linseed budfly as it was found more effective in the present experiment. The information generated in the present study would be helpful in developing superior pest management strategies against insect pest of linseed crop for enhanced production efficiency. Efficacy of plant origin insecticides on seed yield of linseed during Rabi (2012-13) in Table 3.

**Table 2:** Efficacy of chemicals and plant origin insecticides against linseed budfly infestation during rabi season 2012-13.

Treatments	Linseed budfly infested buds (%)			
	Conc. (%)	Before treatment	After treatments	
			3 <sup>rd</sup> day	7 <sup>th</sup> day
Imidacloprid 17.8 SL	0.005	7.122 (2.761)	3.530 (2.007)	2.291 (1.676)
Nimbecidine	0.25	7.376 (2.800)	4.350 (2.202)	5.020 (2.349)
NSKE	5.0	7.400 (2.812)	5.080 (2.362)	5.078 (2.361)
Neem leaf extract	5.0	7.240 (2.787)	6.060 (2.561)	6.590 (2.662)
Green chilli extract	0.5	7.050 (2.754)	6.050 (2.559)	6.900 (2.720)
Garlic extract	5.0	7.230 (2.780)	7.351 (2.800)	7.401 (2.810)
Tulsi leaf extract	5.0	7.101m (2.750)	7.149 (2.760)	7.240 (2.780)
Control		7.200 (2.777)	9.421 (3.151)	13.200 (3.701)
SEm±		0.22	0.26	0.26
CD at 5%		0.66	0.79	0.89

Values within parenthesis are square root transformation ( $\sqrt{x + 0.5}$ )

**Table-3:** Efficacy of chemicals and plant origin insecticides on seed yield of linseed during rabiseason 2012-13.

Treatments	Conc. (%)	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>3</sub>	Total	Mean (kg/plot)	Mean yield (q/ha)	Increased yield (%) over control
Imidacloprid 17.8 SL	0.005	2.100	2.225	2.250	6.575	2.19	16.22	33.60
Nimbecidine	0.25	1.900	1.900	2.000	5.800	1.93	14.29	17.71
NSKE	5.0	1.750	1.600	2.100	5.630	1.87	13.85	14.08
Neem leaf extract	5.0	1.850	1.800	1.720	5.370	1.79	13.11	13.25
Green chilli extract	0.5	1.740	1.700	2.000	5.440	1.81	13.40	6.09
Garlic extract	5.0	2.050	1.750	1.624	5.424	1.80	13.33	9.80
Tulsi leaf extract	5.0-	1.635	1.710	1.790	5.135	1.71	12.66	4.28
Control		1.641	1.596	1.700	4.93	1.64	12.14	
SEm±							0.081	
CD at 5%							0.249	

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